



# Uchi no Musume no Tame naraba, Ore wa Moshikashitara Maou mo Taoseru kamo Shirenai.

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## **Chapter 25 – Talking about Employment**

So in the previous chapters, what Dale did to that teacher was actually a "Judgement" – redefining terms": 3 Also not very edited since its 2am and i gotta go hang out tomorrow: 3 also info dump ughhh Also maybe I should be like a youtuber" "comment and hit the thumbs up if you liked it" tehe pero; P and more importantly any mistakes u see

#### Young Lady, The conversation regarding employment

The story of when Rita's pregnancy was discovered was approximately one and a half years after Latina started going to school.

What Dale said as an ice-breaker as well as words of blessing were, "If the children are going to increase then.... would it be better for me and Latina to get out of here?"

and were only words because he was concerned about the landlord's family growing but, landlord couple replied to that with, "Ah. I don't mind if you leave but, leave Latina behind"

"True. I do want Latina to stay behind. I don't care where you go though" like so, an unanimous reply.

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"Haa?"
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"Well, you see?"

"Ahh. From here on, with the pregnancy and child-rearing, if Rita's time in the shop is limited then, this shop won't run without Latina. Maybe I'll ask help from my parents as well"

Kenneth says matter-of-factly towards Dale.

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"....You guys, are you really going to work Latina so hard?"

"How disrespectful. We even pay her properly?"

"Ha?"
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Kenneth's statement was a first for him. Kenneth mutters, "Speaking of which, I never told you huh", towards Dale, who was astonished.

"Latina is legitimately employed, she's [Dancing Ocelot(Our)] employee, you know. Since she's still a child, and since she's exempt from working late at night, her part of the pay is lower though. She gets an appropriate sum of money"

He says, puffing his chest out.

"Eh? But, I, have never seen, Latina, hold that much money"

Kenneth said carelessly towards what Dale said, despite him shaking slightly.

"Isn't it because she's putting it in a savings account?"

Just like that.

-The beginning of that goes back to more than half a year ago.

Latina who was trotting over next to Kenneth, like a habit, was looking slightly troubled.

"What's wrong? Did something happen?"

Towards Kenneth who was acting like that, Latina started to speak with a troubled looking expression, as if it was hard to say.

"Anone, Anone.... Latina. I have a request. Is that alright?"

"....Whether it's alright or not, I don't know if you don't ask"
Kenneth urges as if perplexed as well.

"Anone.... Latina, wants, money but"

"Money? Is there something you want? Why didn't you ask Dale?"

At Kenneth's inquiry, Latina made a troubled face.

"Dale *ne*, gives Latina lots of various things. If I ask, he'll also buy me lots of things.

....If I ask that I want money then, I think he'll give me a lot. ....But, I think he'll ask me, what I'll use it on"

"Well. Probably. ....You probably have all the things you want right? What's happened?"

"Latina, wants my own money"

Going back and forth repeatedly as if she was slightly troubled, Latina wasn't very used to [Asking people for help]. This child was a child which had not, until that point, been selfish nor unreasonable.

Kenneth too, if it's Latina's request then, as long as it wasn't too ridiculous wanted to hear it out. However, he also has a some hesitant feelings, whether it's good to hide matters regarding money from her [Guardian]. Which is why he didn't say yes right away.

"Dale, always, gives Latina lots of gifts but. .....Latina, can't give anything back...."

Just like that, she, gave her reason.

"Nn.... Ahh. Speaking of which.... that Dale's birthday is coming up soon huh?"

"Un. Latina, wants to prepare a present"

Revealing a small smile, as if she was embarrassed, she looked up at Kenneth.

This is bad.

Saying such sweet things, and to top that off, that face is against the rules.

And thus, with this kind of reason, he couldn't let something as boorish as

inquiring [the person himself] etc happen.

"This is a secret to Dale....huh"

"If you could keep it a secret, I wonder if Dale would be surprised and happy? If I can make happen, I would be happy. Is it ok?"

Koten. Her act of tilting her head to the side is her bad habit but, at least it's adorable.

"....Right now, Latina. While you're learning how to cook from me, you're also helping out right?"

"Un"

"....Then if you don't [help out] but try your best as [working] then, it'll be alright to give you a salary. How about that?"

"....Latina, is still a child though? Is that alright?"

At Kenneth's suggestion, Latina tilted her head once again. Just the fact that she is able to embrace that kind of doubt immediately means that she is clever.

"I guess you are still a little young. The norm is to start an apprenticeship as an assistant after finishing mandatory studies at school. And I guess the more excellent ones plan to progress to schools of higher education"

"If it's an apprenticeship then, they can work, no?"

Latina nods her head 'Un un' as if saying 'Indeed'.

"Or is it that, Latina, do you want to try to progress into higher education?"

Kenneth had been hearing from Dale as he [Brags about his own child], about how excellent she was. It was understandable just by looking at Latina herself. That her studies were extremely excellent.

"Anone.... Latina, is from the [Demon Race]"

"That's true"

"Since my studies are fun, when I thought that I want to try to become an adult, I thought of lots of things that I want to do, no"

With those words, it told him that she was compromising with [Her own long life span] in her own way.

"Right now, Latina, wants to learn lots, from Kenneth, no. So that I can make the delicious meals like what Kenneth makes, that's my goal, nano"

"In that case.... I have to work hard as well, right"

"Nn? Kenneth too?"

"Ahh. For the sake of Latina's goal being as it is, I also need to try my best"

Thinking about Kenneth's words for a little while, Latina made a small 'puu'. and puffed up her cheeks.

"If Kenneth tries his best then, for Latina to catch up, would be really hard"

Despite that, towards his tiny [Disciple] who would not say 'Give up.' or 'Impossible', Kenneth smiled happily and cheerfully.

-Kenneth says as he recalls that time.

"After that, didn't Latina, give you a present for your birthday? I thought for sure that you would've guessed it from that though."

"....Latina, sewed for me a handmade pouch. Now that you mention it, the materials and the thread for the embroidery too, weren't cheap and were quality stuff"

It was slightly shoddy but, it was a carefully sewed one needle at a time, a little bag. The vivid embroidery, having been set in as a decoration, while increasing the pouches intensity, is also a design filled with her wishes to protect.

"It was just not possible to not be moved"

"I see. That's how [You] are."

"What do you mean by that"

"By the way, even the apron I'm currently using, is Latina's present"

"Well, I had thought that you were using something unusually cute but...."

The main body of the apron is black cloth but, the Ocelot embroidery which had been sewed onto its corner is what I suppose the customers associate it with. However, supposing that she's able to finish sewing something like this then, it seems that she does indeed have dexterous qualities.

Kenneth takes in a breath and continues.

"Nn, so since then I've been paying Latina a wage. When I asked what she plans to do, she answered with I'm saving money for something because everyone has it, and then took me over to Blue God(Azraq) 's Shrine."

"Then Latina, already has a [Safe] huh"

"Ahh"

[Azurack] is the god who governs over commerce and money.

At that Shrine, you can exchange currency from various countries, deposit money and take out loans — In other words, they are responsible for banking services.

Amongst those who have the divine protection of [Azraq], there are many who have the power to [Distinguish with the person concerned]. It'll be difficult for a third-party to impersonate another person and steal their bank account.

In [Azraq's] Shrine, there are structures which manage people's assets called [Safes]. Within those structures, you can deposit numerical management of money, as well as large amounts of precious metals — Basically, it's something which serves as a bank account as well as a storehouse.

And in addition to the contents of this business, they employed a powerful private army at <code>[Azraq's]</code> Shrine, it's as if the armed forces from the Shrine of <code>[Red God (Ahmar)]</code> was next to it.

"Latina is clever too. She asked me \[ \text{Why is it alright to deposit money into the Shrine \]"

"Speaking of which, I had actually never told Latina the story behind the [Shrines]"

Even though Dale was nodding his head as if he was convinced, Kenneth was of the same opinion as well.

"It seemed like that so I explained it to her. Things like, how holders of [Divine Protections] [When it comes to their professional duties, are unable to enact in an unjust conduct]"

"It's fine for them to act unjust. If it get revealed and is complained about then, they have to receive <code>[Judgement]</code>. It's just that once it comes to that, they'll just have their <code>[Divine Protection]</code> erased, and banished at once."

The greatest reason why [Shrines] are responsible for this largely publicized business is because [Gods strongly protect their own territories].

Not even the townspeople, truly think that all of the People who work at Shrines are all benevolent.

However, they believe in [God's] authority.

[Gods]offer protection regarding people within their own [territories], on the other hand [Gods] do not forgive criminals. Basically, they provide protection by giving [Divine Protection] but, that [Divine Protection] would be lost should they [Violate their professional duties].

Using [Azraq] as an example, [Azraq] will not lower any judgement for their

own apostles with conducts <code>[equal to crime]</code> such as *murder, rape etc.*However, they will not forgive the conducts which <code>[Disgrace anothers' assets]</code> such as *embezzlement* or *theft.* 

If you inquire about that to <code>Godl</code> — if <code>Judgementl</code> is carried out, their <code>Divine Protectionl</code> would be extinguished.

There is no compassion there.

[Priests] are a job which can be comprised only of those with [Divine Protection]. In other words, to lose your [Divine Protection], is the same as being banished from the [Shrine].

Saying it differently, [As long as it's a matter regarding their professional duty], it can even be said that [Priests who have Divine Protection] are existences who are sufficiently more trustworthy than others.

The <code>[Judgement]</code> that Dale had performed previously, can only be permitted through the request of a high ranking priest, an act which was <code>[Making an appeal to God]</code>.

What [Yellow God (Asfar)] requests of their apostles is, [To guide those who request knowledge], as well as, [To guide those who are lost in the road of life].

To verbally abuse, and deny a young girl, who is tackling her studies seriously, [Asfar] cannot forgive a comrade like that.

Although they were another god's apostle, Dale, who holds the position of a high ranking priest, was being agreed with repeatedly.

(TL: それを他神の使徒とはいえ、高位神官位を持つデイルは、重々承知していたのだった)

".....So, Kenneth. How much..... has Latina saved up currently"

"It's only been half a year. However since it is that kid, if she goes on like this, she could at least prepare her own dowry by herself, couldn't she?"

"Don't say something like that even if it's an example! Because I won't give away my kid as something like a brideee!"

Yelling out something like that, Dale was serious.

He was slightly teary eyed.

(Author's note: I added supplementary information about the previous story....

Latina has grown up slightly. Like I want her to hurry up and grow up, and move onto the main story..... or to celebrate that she still has the feeling of a child, it's something to worry about as the writer) (TL: also the title has changed slightly, from young girl to young lady here, as it shows Latina growing up. Furthermore you lovely readers don't know but, Latina is using more and more kanji in her conversations~ it's cute :3)

## **Chapter 26 – Preparing for the journey**

Gintama too gud; so gud that i got tired of editing halfway (i edit backwards :3)

### Young Lady, Preparing for the Journey.

(Author's note: Because of yesterday's system error, there was no time to post the scheduled post and the work....)

When it was decided that Latina was to go on a journey, it was the start of spring of the year when she was to turn 10.

"To be honest, I had been thinking whether I should wait until Latina finishes school but.... I was thinking that it might be best while Rita can still move, so it's earlier than planned"

Dale says so and gave her the options.

"What about you? The journey's a little long but, will you come with me? Or will you stay at home?"

"It's ok for Latina to come as well?"

Dale grinned, as if he was a kid planning a prank, looking at the surprised Latina.

"It's cause it's not a job this time. Speaking of which, it is dangerous.... If you don't want that then, please stay at home Latina."

"Latina wants to go. I want to be with Dale"

She replied immediately with a face full of smiles. Jumping, and clinging onto Dale.

"I'll listen to Dale properly, and make sure not to be in danger"

Acting reliable, Latina said something like that.

Having the point of caution said before he could, Dale could only smile wryly.

Due to Dale having to once again go to the royal capital, in the meantime, Latina made her own luggage.

Normally Dale travels on foot alone but, this time he provided a small horse. It means that it can transport the luggage and that Latina can ride it when we gets tired.

Nevertheless, that doesn't mean that it's good to bring a lot of luggage.

Everyday, unloading the luggage that should be packed to the brim, seeing him groan with huffs and puffs.

As if she suddenly realises, she rushed down the stairs.

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"Kenneth. Is it ok if Latina takes the knife with me?"
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"Un"

"Nn? The cooking knife?"

She starts talking as soon as she see his face.

Usually, the one who approaches Latina to talk was Kenneth.

She really likes Dale therefore it seems she has also been thoughtful in her own way. It seemed that because of that, Kenneth, as a senior she relies on, and as her master, Latina also had a sense that he was easy to talk to.

"As for the journey's preparation, I think that Dale is going to just go buy something at the royal capital though..."

"To Latina, a knife that's easy to use is good"

"Easy to use.... how about going to buy one? If you leave it to the workers, I think that the you can at least adjust the grip. It's fine if you get used to it from now until when you leave"

"Is it ok, to use the money?"

"It's your wage money. It's alright to use it for your own shopping"

After Kenneth answered with that, he took a look at his work floor. Taking a rough idea of how business will run until the evening. It seems alright to leave for a little bit.

"Rita, I'm going to go with Latina to the East for a little bit"

"My, is that so? Have a safe trip"

"You stay safe too, Rita"

"It's not a disease, you worry too much"

After the couple exchanged a conversation like that, Kenneth left [Dancing Ocelot] taking Latina with him.

While walking down the East District's Workers street, Latina says 'Ah, that's right', and looked up at Kenneth.

"Kenneth, um, you know (anone). I hear that Rudi's dad is actually a blacksmith"

"That red haired kid? Speaking of which, he's the third one from Schmidt's place huh.... Well, I guess his skills weren't too bad. Should we go and see?"

"Latina, has never been to a blacksmithery. I wonder if they sell knifes."

"The products they produce differ depending on the workshop, I guess...."

Chasing after Kenneth from behind, trot trot, every now and then Latina would wave at the children she would pass by.

Compared to the South District, Latina has more friends in the East District.

"Here it is"

Saying so, the entrance that Kenneth went through was, saying it nicely, had the grace belonging to a long established shop. Saying it badly, it was old fashioned. That's the sort of blacksmith it was.

In the immediate space after entering the shop, a mess which was called a display, had all sorts of swords lined up.

Where it was most eye catching, the goods for display which were clearly of a different quality to the others were also, swords.

It clearly indicates what the shop primarily deals with.

"Fuaaaa.... so many swords"

"Schmidt's place, is a sword smithing workshop after all"

Latina was looking around curiously and Kenneth, had begun scrutinising the weapons from long years of habit. The weapon he loved using was a battle axe but, it didn't mean he couldn't use a sword.

Still, it was just as he had recalled, although it couldn't be said there craftsmanship was famous, it seems they aren't that terrible.

"....This ain't no place you bring kids to"

The man who looked to be in the prime of his life, slowly coming out from within, had splendid red hair.

Latina stares at that man with eyes of wonder.

The shopkeeper who didn't seem to be very suited for customer service, only said one sentence to those two, and once again tried to return back inside the workshop.

Latina gasped as if she had suddenly realised something, going to approach the

man.

"Hello. Anone, Latina, is Rudi's friend"

Stopping at that voice, the shopkeeper looks at Latina, acting as if he was surprised.

"Rudolfs?"

"Yup. Nice to meet you"

Latina bowed courteously after showing him a sweet smile.

Unperturbed by his impolite gaze, which was almost as if he was appraising her.

"Did you come to play with Rudolf?"

"Nuh uh. Latina, wants a knife. Do you have a knife which is around the size Latina can use?"

"We don't have any blades here for kids to play with"

Looking at the shopkeeper who was slightly frowning, Latina turned to Kenneth with a troubled face.

Kenneth lightly pat her head, pon pon.

"This kid is about to go on a bit of a trip. She wants a knife which can handle miscellaneous matters at that time. Although it seems like she wants to use it mainly for cooking"

"Is she your daughter?"

"No. I'm a substitute"

The shopkeeper thinks for a little bit, and pointed to the workshop.

"I don't take them out for the public but, there are several placed inside. You

can go and see"

Following behind the shopkeeper and entering the workshop, it was once again, a place which made them feel like time was piled upon. (TL: Old) To the curiosity filled Latina, the workshop was a space which held her interest from each and every gap. She was more restless, looking around more than ever.

"Come on Latina. It's dangerous so keep your eyes in front"

She panics and approaches Kenneth side having been called out.

In one corner of the workshop, there were swords and daggers piled up, more so than at the front of the store.

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"...Kenneth, which one, should I choose?"

"Let's see..."
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Latina who had been using her fingertips to timidly poke at the hilts, tilted her head, and requested the help of Kenneth who was next to her.

After taking out several ones of a convenient size from within the mountain, Kenneth begins carefully inspecting the blades. Before long, two knives were placed in front of Latina.

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"What's left is for you to decide by testing the grip"
"Un"
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Latina repeats gripping them and releasing them with a serious face at Kenneth's words, when a lively sound was heard from behind the workshop.

Looking over there, there were three, two boys, one girl but, as they were negotiating with each other as if arguing, it came to the present situation.

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"Rudi, stop talking nonsense and help out!"
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"Why should I, the one of duty today is Aniki, right"

"Your brother has something else to do!"

"I'm not free all the time, like you"

"Yet you can't even talk back to the old man"

For the time being, it was just as noisy as goose calls.

You could guess that all of them, with their brilliantly matching red hair, were family with just one glance.

"Rudolf, your friend came"

"Rudi"

Continuing after the shopkeeper, Latina's high pitch voice unexpectedly resounded within the workshop.

All three of them suddenly stop talking, and simultaneously looked over here all at once.

Latina was shakily waving her hand. At the sight of Latina, Rudi looked clearly confused, and his brother and sister both, were looking at Latina with shocked expressions.

(....Well, there aren't any girls as pretty as Latina in this working part of the city....) Kenneth thinks, seeing the situation.

Even Kenneth, who had gotten used to it day after day, will sometimes be shocked at the cuteness of this young girl.

She's slightly small when lined up with kids her own age but, she had become quite a lot bigger these past two years.

Her platinum hair had been thoroughly maintained, sparkling nicely. Today she braided up a part of it, and let the rest flow down her shoulder.

Her plump, and seemingly soft cheeks too, her long eyelashes that decorate those grey eyes too, her pink lips too, all of them emphasize her adorableness.

The small baby who had been all skin and bones when she came to Kroix is already no more.

"W-....Why, are you here"

Koten. Latina tilts her head, at Rudi rushing over to her with a panicked look.

"I came to shop. Because Latina, wants a knife"

"There's no way these rough things, things like ours, are suitable for Latina, right"

Latina puffed up her cheeks unwillingly at Rudi's words. Puu.

"Latina will be A-ok, mon. It's bigger than the one Latina usually uses for cooking but, it's necessary so, Latina will make it so Latina can use it, mon"

"What do you mean 'it's necessary"

"Latina, is going on a journey"

At those words, Rudi made a shocked face, clear for everyone to see.

(Author notes: It ended up being cut at an extremely halfway point....

It's a matter of the word count.)

## Chapter 27 – The talk the day before leaving

At some point... you just give up editing while translating, and just type out random words, and go through a proper editing process.... but then while going through edits you want to just give up, cause those random words are making sense... wutttt

Gintama OST, cause I still am not over hype

## Young Lady, The talk the day before leaving

"'Journey'.... Latina, are you going to go somewhere? Why!? Why out of nowhere!?"

Having her shoulders suddenly grabbed and loudly shouted at by Rudi, Latina looked surprised.

"What's wrong? Rudi"

Kenneth notices the differing opinions of the two before even Latina, who was blinking nonstop, seemingly curious.

"Latina, did you tell your friends, that you were going on a journey?"

"....Nuh uh. I didn't"

"Even you would get worried if your friends suddenly disappeared right, Latina? You should tell them properly"

Gasping, with a face as if she had suddenly noticed, Latina firmly met eyes with the Rudi in front of her.

"Um, you see, Rudi. Latina, together with Dale, is going to Dale's hometown. It's a little far but, we'll be coming back before the Summer ends."

With that one sentence, Rudi regains back most of his calmness.

Realising that Latina's big eyes were staring back at his own, he hurriedly gained some distance.

"O-oh, what.... so you'll be back"

"Yup. Latina, will be coming back to Kroix"

Latina smiled pleasantly at Rudi who was avoiding his gaze awkwardly.

"It appears that Latina had been forgetting a few things due to the anticipation of going on a journey"

Murmuring as if she was reflecting on it, she looks at Kenneth.

"After we finish shopping, can Latina also go by Chloe's house?"

"I don't mind. Just come back before it gets dark"

"I'll choose this one. How much is it?"

"....If it's only one then, you can just take it"

At the shopkeepers words, Latina ponders with a slightly troubled expression.

"Um, you see (anone)... Today, Latina wants to shop, with Latina's own money. Latina is always, only getting things so, Latina wants, something of my own."

As always, Latina's tone was slightly awkward but, the shopkeeper nods 'I see', and told her the price.

For Kenneth, he understood that that was a price which has been discounted quite heavily but, he only smiled slightly.

From within her red pochette, Latina takes out an exquisitely made wallet with an eye catching flower embroidery, and starts counting the amount of silver coins with a diligent and careful look.

Matching the amount within her small palm, she held it out to the shopkeeper

"....It sure is a small hand. Is she not growing?"

"Latina sure is small"

"Latina will grow up soon, mon"

Latina puffs up her cheeks unwillingly as Rudi follows up the shopkeepers seemingly worried words with ones of banter.

The shopkeeper drops a fist onto the head of his youngest son without a word, and takes the payment as he grabs hold of Latina's small hands.

Carefully looking at them for a little while.

"Do you have time until you leave? If you have two to three days then, I can make the grip slightly thinner"

"Ahh. If it's only that long then it's alright. Is that fine with you Latina?"

She thinks about the exchange between the two grownups for a little bit, and quickly lowers her head.

"Can I ask you of that? I leave it, in your care"

"Sure is polite...."

"You wouldn't think of her as a friend of that idiot Rudi, huh"

"Still, someone like her...."

"Ugh.... don't talk about that man. Anyway right now"

Rudi's brother and sister were giggling together a little further away but, immediately after this, Latina trots over to them and starts to introduce herself. As a result they were unable to laugh at their little brother, changing to acting suspiciously, making their father sigh.

"I'll tell the others at school but. Dale came back and said that he'll explain the circumstances to the [Shrine]. Dale and the others told Latina not to worry about Latinas studies."

"Fuun. A journey huh. They say it's dangerous outside the district since there

are thieves and magic beasts, etc but, are you going to be alright?"

Separating with Kenneth, Latina headed over the Chloe's house, and explained what's happening to her best friend.

Chloe was surprised at Latina suddenly coming to visit but, after listening to the gist of the story, Chloe was worried about Latina at first.

"Dale will be with me so, I'll be alright"

Latina replies immediately smiling.

"The customers that come to the shop also say that Dale is super strong. But you know what, they tell me not to tell that to Dale"

Ufufu, at the sight of Latina's happily talking, Chloe also stopped worrying too much. Of course she's worried but, more than that, she wants her to enjoy herself.

Chloe knows very well, just how sad Latina seems to be every time she gets left behind (stays at home).

"Take care of yourself, ok. Latina. Bring back lots of stories"

"I'll write you! Latina will be moving around so, I don't think I'll be able to get a reply but, I'll send lots to you, ok"

Stricken with a good idea, Latina started smiling, seemingly luring Chloe to smile as well.

Dale went to the royal capital to buy travel clothes for Latina's sake.

A cape with a hood that children use, a high class item which is cast with a protection charm. Kenneth takes a glance at that, and mixed within his sigh, was a thought, that a beginner adventurer would probably cry tears of blood if they saw that.

Dale was unsatisfied that there wasn't a rod of the proper size; The rod, given that it is used for children to practise magic, is easy for assisting control. However when Latina was made to hold it as a test, it seemed that it was sufficient for her.

Like how a good workman doesn't choose their tools, for Latina who had excelled at controlling her magic power from the start, if she didn't plan to actually fight then it would function sufficiently. Rather it seemed that it would've been better if it was a smaller size.

Hide boots that strengthen the soles, were ordered as soon as they decided they were leaving for a journey and she had already gotten used to them since she has worn them ever since.

She who was carrying a magic rod sparkling with a small gem, a knife that was attached to the red hide belt behind her waist and a rucksack on her back, filled with the bare minimums, had completely readied her preparations.

Whirling around inside the [Dancing Ocelot], she debuts that outfit happily.

"So as for the luggage. Dale, Latina put in some [magic tools] as well. They're attached to the water canteens. There are also [Fire starting] [Magic tools]."

"You.... how many did you use"

"Who cares! It's not an exaggeration to say that [Water] and [Fire] [Magic tools] are necessities anyway"

Even Dale who retorted back slightly awkwardly was self-conscious that he was being soft on her.

"Latina, [Magic tools] are expensive things. Make sure you don't show them off to other people too much. It's dangerous otherwise"

"Understood. I'll be quiet about it"

At Kenneth's warning, she immediately, nodded her head.

"After that, I've also put in the minimum amount of food, and medicine alright.

The other luggage can be carried by the horse but, just in case, you must, at the very least, carry these yourself"

"Un. I understand"

"Speaking of which, Latina, are you holding onto any money?"

"I put it inside my bag. I've put a little bit here as well"

Saying so, she points to the small pouch attached to her belt.

"Since Rita said so, I've also sewed some inside my clothes"

Naturally, the bag too, is being worn under the cape.

Still, this kid sure is reliable, the two men exchanged a look.

The knife that Latina had bought herself had a red leather scabbard attached to it. The sewing thread used is also white, making it look somewhat cute.

Since it wasn't there when they saw it in the shop, it's probably something extra for her.

It seems some consideration was put into it, since it is something for a girl to use.

The small pouch attached to her waist too, was something that Latina sewed up herself, for the sake of this day.

Apart from the minimum amount of money, she also put in candies etc.

Appearance wise too, the sturdy, thick cloth had become a girlish design due to the finish with the coloured threads. The dexterous Latina had also put in a lot of embroideries but, on this pouch there was also a small figure of an ocelot stitched in it.

That outfit together with her appearance, was very girlish, very charming.

"....Take care, Dale. This kid, she's dangerous in various ways"

It wasn't something new but, although he was concerned, there was no need to put it into words.

"Latina is really adorable after all, you know"

Somewhere within that response towards Kenneth, was a boastful spirit.

"Latina, be careful ok? Dale, you better come back safe and sound as well. Otherwise Latina would cry"

Rita pats Latina's head as she speaks and Dale consents as if it was obvious.

"I'll protect Latina, no matter what happens to me."

"See you! We're going now!"

"Take care"

Kenneth and Rita quietly send Latina off, who was giving them a big wave as she walks.

Receiving their farewells, the day Dale and Latina departed, was a nice, sunny, calm spring day.

(Author's note: After the next chapter: prequel, Dale chapter, the journey chapter begins.

Travelling is food isn't it. Nevertheless, Dale-san... How much did you spend for your preparations.

It's because since even Latina herself is aware that Dale is way too soft on her, that she turns to Kenneth for help though....)

## Chapter 28 – The talk the day before leaving

So I was like, why is no one commenting on my other pages apart from uchimusume, and then i noticed, after 3 months... I didn't enable comments whaaaat... cool *self destruct* 

Also put up a page for uchimusume images, though it's empty o3o

EDIT: enabled commenting on most pages...? idk

## Youth, The talk the day before leaving

The reason why Dale was leaving his job and decided to leave for a journey, was something that was going to happen no matter what.

His one good leather coat. Even that excellent defensive gear of his was becoming a little tighter.

(Hmmm.... I guess I've still got little more to grow....)

He didn't really understand it himself but, that's probably what it was. His coat was made with room to spare, so it became that you could adjust it with a belt here and there. Because of that, he loved using it for countless years but, it seems that it's at it's limits.

(Wearing normal armour after all this time is also annoying sigh....)

"I haven't been back in a while anyway... I guess I'll go back to get a new one made...."

It was that monologue that started this whole thing.

Normally he takes a round trip to the royal capital via flying dragons but, due to this time being for his own personal requests, he galloped there using a horse to travel.

The distance between Kroix and the Royal Capital is a of minimum three days by horse and roughly a week via a carriage and such, however he arrived at Royal Capital in only two days.

His horse was obviously completely exhausted.

He had cast stamina recovery healing magic continuously on the horse at regular intervals whilst riding it. It was a method only magicians could use but, it was also quite the cruel method.

He had gotten in touch with the duke family ahead of time but, that in no way meant that he is able to get an immediate audience. Normally when Dale stays at the Royal Capital, he would use a room of the Duke's family but, this time he took to his own lodgings.

Since he has a contract it meant that he needs to approval of the duke to leave Kroix, his normal established base of operations, for private matters.

If it was just for a couple of days then there would be no need for that however, his hometown was at the very ends of the outskirts of the Raband Kingdom.

It was a land such that just going there would easily take several weeks. It was an itinerary where a round trip would end up taking more than a month.

If he was to depart without even telling them his destination then he would probably be needlessly doubted.

He definitely doesn't want that to happen, as he is facing a figure of authority.

Be that as it may, he had already proposed it to the Duke via letter. In the first place there is nothing that can be refused. However, despite that, in addition to the contract, there was a need to come meet directly.

Even if he thought that it was a pain internally, the reason he came to visit the royal capital this time was for the sake of gaining formal approval, for the sake of returning home.

(Latina also needs preparations for the journey sigh)

Slouching as he walks around the royal capital, Dale thought of such things.

(Even her cloak, it would be good if it was something girly. Latina, likes red and pink. It'll be sad if it's too plain.... As for magic armours, they not only have the power to defend but are also hard to stain so it's practical as well.... Yup, as expected, splurging on Latina's armours is not bad at all, yup!)

As one would expect of the capital of a major power, Raband. There was more of a variety in items assembled here compared with Kroix. It was easy to see just by casually looking around at the stores.

Because of that, there were many items with differing prices but, there is probably sufficient profit there.

"A carry bag and.... in any case, it might be better for her to have a rod to protect herself.... and then...."

It was when he was muttering out his thoughts subconsciously.

"My, if it isn't Dale. What's up? Work?"

That's right, the one who called out to him was a familiar face.

Luxuriously knitted blonde hair, showing off her smooth nape. Probably because she was well acquainted with her own charms.

Her refreshing attire too, was somewhat lascivious. The type of clothes that those of the same sex might realise can only be worn by those with confidence in their figure.

The one who called out to Dale, was a person with a good figure, such that she could be called a beautiful blue eyed woman.

"Hermine huh"

"I didn't hear of a rumour speaking of a job which would call upon you though? Is there a good story for this?"

"....I just came to do a little shopping"

He didn't openly frown but, he was sweating on the inside.

Dale was slightly bad at dealing with this person.

Hermine was a person who wouldn't hesitate to use The Fact She was a Woman as one of her weapons.

He too, suffered a painful memory in the past. It was a past he wanted to forget.

She was skilled at using magic, so they had associated by doing jobs together on several occasions but, they weren't so close to the point of knowing each others likes and dislikes.

"Shopping?"

Although Hermine was only smiling pleasantly in front of him, Dale prepared himself for the worst.

He wants to prepare the best things he possibly can for the cute Latina's sake.

However, even though he can use magic, he is a [Warrior] focusing on mainly physical attacks. He has no confidence in his judgement when preparing the items intended for [Magicians].

Here, in addition to being able to meet an excellent magician, to ask for her help would be the best course of action, probably.

Everything is for Latina's sake.

He smiles towards Hermine.

"To be able to meet Hermine here, I sure am lucky. If you have the time, won't you come shop with me?"

"My, it's rare for you to be the one inviting"

"I don't think so"

"Then, let's do as you say"

To Dale, even her bell-like giggles, could only sound like the growls of some kind of large fox or something.

In any case, he decided that he would try his best as he etches the smiling face of [his cute Latina (his child)] into his brain.

The main god of the Raband Kingdom is Ahmar (The red god), the god of war.

Which is why, although it wasn't to the level of a military focused country, martial arts and magic are actively being encouraged. Coupled with the abundance of national strength, the army that the king and princes hold are also quite substantial.

It is precisely because they are in the royal capital of that kind of country that top quality weapons and armours, as well as magic tools etc, are gathered. Various shops are lined up here, from the shops which deal with goods of a reasonable price, to those that commoners can never in their lifetime afford, shops that deal with exceptional goods at an extravagant price.

Dale, together with Hermine, went inside one such shop.

The shop that Hermine pushed for as a recommendation seems to be a shop which has the robes that magicians favour, with a variety of colours and designs on display.

Indeed, even Dale who wasn't very informed about the equipment of magicians could tell that there were goods within this shop which were of quite exquisite design.

Protecting your body with heavy armour, magicians who lack stamina and physical strength, like to wear [Magic robes] which boast a high defensive power by adding the magic strength accordingly.

It's probably the most appropriate armour for a girl who was still young, like Latina.

"Dale? You're looking at quite a small one, aren't you"

"....It's because I was asked to come here to buy something for the child of someone I know. I thought I told you?"

"Indeed. I heard that. However, it's just that you're surprisingly enthusiastic for that assignment"

At Hermine's light laughter, Dale showed a stiff smile.

He had been told by Kenneth and Gregor (his friend) and such but, somehow it seems that recently when he thinks about Latina, his expression would slacken and become softer.

Latina is currently his greatest [Weakness]. If he doesn't want this female fox to end up knowing about her then, he has to avoid telling her at all costs.

(TL: こんな女狐に知られないで済むのならば、極力教えたくもない。)

(But, I can't help it! This robe here isn't bad but, I'm totally thinking about how Latina would look cuter in this cape over here!)

'I'm choosing this for Latina's sake. It can't be helped that putting it on her within his mind and imagining it is an involuntary action.',

is what, Dale is thinking.

(Actually, compared to what I had thought before coming here, this one over here looks a lot better.... it also looks like it'll be easy to move in... Hmmm....)

"That isn't bad but, if it's for a child then, I recommend this one over here. It's slightly expensive but, that's because it's made so that just looking from the

exterior, it's hard to determine that it's a [Magic tool]."

Dale who was inside his personal thoughts, turns to face Hermine's voice. She was holding a cape with a slightly simple design compared to what Dale had been considering.

Having it handed over and carefully looking over it, it seems that the protection magic formula has been carved in the lining.

The outer material is simple but, even the lining had a bright hue, it seemed like something a girl would like.

"A child wearing something like a [Magic robe] is almost as if you're saying 'Please kidnap me', you know? It's something which is similar to saying, 'That's how rich I am'. Which is why, something like this is made so that it wouldn't look like that at first glance."

"Indeed..."

"On the contrary however, no matter where you look there are actually Magic robe]-like items everywhere. Those kind of robes targeted for the children, are things rich noble youths are made to wear in order to inform the surroundings. [Even though he's still a child, this child already has the talent for magic], [Our Family is able to let a young child wear something like this], things like that"

Mixed within her elegant laughter, was a slight tinge of spoken poison.

"Are you looking for something for a girl?"

"....What's this, out of the blue?"

His heart jumped, at her words which had no pretext but, he asked in return, trying his utmost in order to not leak out his facial expression. However, Hermine,

"I mean, the one I handed to you just now, you readily accepted it. If it was for

a boy then, you would want to avoid something with such cute lining right?" Casually confessing that she had tricked him.

Dale had sweat vigorously run down his back for a second time.

By the time he had bought a [Rod that Magicians use], he had ended up completely leaking out a lot of information about Latina, apart from her name to Hermine.

She had not personally said anything about it and she didn't interrogate Dale about it directly either. However, that's just how it appeared.

Regarding the [Rod], Dale was slightly unwillingly, because the only choices were between rods, the size that a child could use easily and, rods which were easy on correction for training use. If it wasn't those ones then, it seems that there would be a need to have it specially made, however this time they didn't have that much time to spare.

Dale, who had wanted to buy the best of the best for Latina, albeit reluctantly, compromised with buying the most expensive one from within the [Training use] rods.

After the shopping came to an end, as they were parting, Hermine said this.

"Well then, Dale. The next time we meet, introduce that girl to me ok? Given that she can master magic at such a young age, as a fellow magician, she's of great interest to me"

As he watched the back of Hermine laughing and lightly fluttering her hand waving "See you", Dale asked himself.

-Indeed, if I was alone then I wouldn't have been able to shop as well as I could. However, I wonder why I can't say for sure that this was the best course of action—.

And thus, he was feeling an indescribable sense of defeat.

(Author's notes: Thank you for always reading.

Everytime the points or bookmarks increase, it leaves me grinning. It's great encouragement on my part.

I think I would be happy if you would keep reading from here on)

(TL: yes. me too desu.)

# **Chapter 29 – Reporting to the Deceased**

So i'm actually scheduling uchimusume, trying to make it so I'm releasing them at regular time for the next few days, so that I have something in stockpile while I work on ryouriban, or get back into uni:v

Edit: Thanks Eliss for the clarification

## Young Lady, Reporting to the Deceased

Kroix's East District is connected to the main road. Going north of that, there is a large river, eventually reaching a port. On the contrary, you would reach the royal capital by going south. It's the reason Kroix is a necessary location for commercial flow.

Although Dale had told Latina that their initial destination is the sea, the two of them leave the outer walls of the district from the southern gate, and were heading towards the south-west direction. The direction was completely different. Realising that fact, Latina looked up curiously at Dale.

"Dale? Why are we going this way?"

"You know, I can't even guess the next time I'll be taking you outside with me... so shouldn't we go visit his grave? If it's too painful for you then we can stop though"

At his words, Latina gets a hunch of what lies in this direction.

"....The forest Latina first met Dale in, is here?"

"That's right. It's dangerous since there are a lot of magic beasts though...

Since then, I had come here many times to check around, and even found out the shortest path from outside the forest. I'll protect you properly, Latina"

Immediately after Dale said that, Latina tightly gripped his hand.

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"Thank you, Dale"
"Nn?"
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"You've been to *Rag's* grave many times right? Even though it really should be Latina who goes. Thank you".

Latina said to Dale, who had been questioning why she was thanking him right now.

"....Latina, will go to the grave. Because it won't be good if I don't tell *Rag* how super happy I am right now"

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"....I see"
```

No longer worrying as he sees Latina's gentle expression, Dale smiles once again.

The forest to the south-west of Kroix, is an extremely abundant forest, which can also be understood by the sheer amount of magic beasts and wild animals.

There seems to be an official name for it too but, the people living in Kroix are appropriately calling it, [Forest of Demons] or [Dark Forest]. Given that this is what they mean when they say [Forest] in Kroix, there's probably no need to fuss over the details.

Even though Dale could see the forest, he doesn't enter it right away, and circled around it, parallel to its circumference. He felt the presence of wild animals here and there but, none of them would come rushing over.

"Hmmm... It's probably around here"

Dale mutters to himself and quickly chants magic. It seems that since he is good with Earth attribute magic, he doesn't lose his direction.

Dale beckons Latina as he pulls along the reins of the horse.

"We'll enter the forest from here. You probably also understand that there are many magic beasts and dangerous beings but still, be careful"

"Un. Latina'll make sure not to leave Dale's side"

Nodding with a serious face, Latina had an aura filled with fighting spirit.

It was at this time, that Dale had learnt from Latina that she had the ability to [Sense things that would harm her.].

It was when they had walked for quite a while.

She suddenly stopped within the forest, and started looking around cautiously at her surroundings. After which, she halts her gaze at one point, as if she had found something and stands ready. Holding the rod, which had been attached to her carry bag since it was a nuisance whilst walking, with both hands.

"....? What's wrong, Lati...."

When he tried to call out to her, Dale also notices.

Several presences moved, that were much further out than her line of sight.

"[?"

More than that however, he was in shock that Latina had noticed them.

Even for Dale who is called top-class, it was a far enough distance that he would notice only if he was [holding caution towards that direction]. *Normally* he wouldn't notice it.

"....Do you know, that there are magic beasts over there?"

"Un"

At Dale's inquiry, she nods her head without hesitation. Kokuri.

"Latina knows it's [Dangerous]. When Latina was here before, at that time, Latina would run away and hide immediately"

"....Amazing. How do you know?"

"I dun know. Somehow. *Rag* often said that Latina is **[**being protected by fate]."

(... Does she have a [Divine Protection]? But, I don't sense something like that

#### from Latina....)

He mutters within his heart as he conceals his agitation. At any rate, right now he should make use of this advantage and take the initiative.

Dale turns on his switch and took one swing with his left hand.

The sound of a stopper being removed from a [Magic tool] in the shape of a gauntlet. Within a single breath, he expanded it even further, with a practiced motion. In the blink of an eye, the small bow gun which had been installed onto his left arm was complete.

This was a [Magic Tool] as a weapon — A weapon fed with magic.

It has the ability to change, shoot and fire arrows using magic.

Having no need to worry about the remaining number of arrows, nor the time it takes to load one in. And, unlike magic, there's no need for a time lag whilst chanting the spell.

For Dale who was originally was weak at long distance attack magic due to his magic attributes, it was an infallible [Partner].

From the form of Dale lowering his sword and the fact that he is actually also excels in swordsmanship, he completely looks like a close range warrior with his swordsmanship as his forte but what he is actually most skilled with is archery. Especially with long range shooting weapons.

Hyuu, a single breath. Stopped, in that so called moment, magic arrows were shot out in repetition.

The second arrow that had been rapid fired, sees a magic beast still a far distance away — Big feline-like beings hunting in a pack — and without varying its aim, pierces it. Although it is a small bow gun, they were magic arrows. Because they were things with quite some power behind it, one of them collapsed inside the thicket, penetrated between the brows.

Another arrow seems to have veered away from the vitals. Piercing into the stomach of the other beast that was next to it, making it go wild with an anguished look.

Having their comrades defeated, the magic beasts were agitated.

Using those movements, Dale was able to accurately grasp the numbers and position of the remaining magic beasts.

The rest is simple.

Despite dodging the arrows he continuously shot out, catching up at such a distance would appear to be impossible no matter what. No matter how much the number advantage the opponent held, there was absolutely no chance for them to win or anything.

Latina's [Ability] has a good compatibility with Dale.

In addition to being able to take the initiative from quite a distance, it makes the best use of his forte, his bow attacks.

Due to the numerous "obstacles" inside the forest, since Dale is handling the bow with his left hand, he even handles the ones that slip past by swinging the long sword in his empty right hand.

Also, today's Dale has a support. Latina's magic definitely has not been through actual combat, however in regards with the control, even Dale is singing from admiration.

In order to protect herself, he had let her learn a magic in the branch of [Defensive Barrier] before they left. She can even provide support for Dale using that, via her quick witted thinking.

She had exhibited her cleverness in it's whole back when they had fought back

against the frog-like magic beast too.

It was once the magic beast which he had accepted a subjugation request for, at the time Dale had met Latina.

Having discovered their herd, Dale twisted his face by reflex.

It was because he had recalled their body liquids and mucus that they release as a reaction to threats.

Defeating them isn't hard. However, he is thinking, 'I wonder how I should defeat them'.

"Dale? What's wrong?"

"Nn.... Those guys, I don't really want to fight with them up close, at all...."

"If only Latina could use attack magic"

"....No, it's alright as long as you just think about protecting yourself"

For Latina, who was still a child, should there be no need to teach her <code>[life taking]</code> spells then, there is nothing more to it.

And he doesn't want her to be burdened with the weight of <code>[Life taking]</code>. No matter how many magic beasts or wild beasts there are. — That is how he thinks as her <code>[guardian]</code>.

Because of that, the only attack magic that Dale had taught Latina is at the opportunity of the <code>[aforementioned incident]</code>. The original effect was just a magic which attacks a far away opponent with a strong bashing force.

"Why is it no good up front?"

"...Their bodily fluids and such, smell. A lot"

"Oh I see"

Latina nods at Dale's response. Kokun.

"Latina, if it's just that, Latina can probably do something about it?"
"Nn?"

At Dale's question, Latina points with her rod.

 $\Gamma$ " Oh light, raining from the heavens, grant thy wish at the origin of thy name, sweep away the universal calamities, become a shield that protects thyself  $\langle Magic Barrier \rangle$ "

A soft light expands from her rod, enveloping Dale's entire body.

"Latina surrounded Dale's body with a shield, all of it. It can't stay for too long though. It'll stay like this for a little while"

She declares readily but, she had made this magic based on Magic Shield. She would definitely not make an Armour. (TL: 決して『鎧』を作るものではない。)

She, with her excellent control ability, expanded the effective range of the magic onto his entire body.

(....She did it like it was obvious but... if this is [normal] then, the magicians of the world would cry....)

Trampling the final [Frog], he lowered his sword. During the intervals of that operation, he had unintentionally thought of something like that.

(However, when Latina uses magic and the light envelops her, she's sho cute, almost like she's divine, naa)

His expressions loosens up with love.

With more than enough to spare.

Their destination was embraced in silence.

A large, white rock, exposed to wind and rain, made it feel like the whiteness is being brought out even more than before.

Latina approaches it, tote tote, sliding those small hands against that rock.

She shows a mature expression every now and then. Almost as if she was holding in her tears, as if she was swallowing down her loneliness, it was an expression that made him feel like her past was too heavy for a young child to carry.

With a bump, she lays her forehead on the rock.

She slips out in complex vocabulary that Dale couldn't follow.

Latina's voice continues without pausing.

In her posture, just like that, she talks continuously to he who was sleeping.

"Dale, sorry. It's gotten late"

After some time had passed, Latina looked up, and apologized to him, just like that.

During her grave visit, Dale had been on watch for the surroundings. He smiles at her words and gently strokes her head.

"You had heaps of things to say, right? Lots of things happened after all"
"Un. Lots...."

Latina made a slightly teary face but, after Dale strokes her head once more, she showed a smile.

"There were lots. Latina, is happy that's why, Latina said that everything is alright"

-One day, I want to hear the story of her father from her own mouth, Dale

thought.

If the day comes that Latina can speak of it with a peace of mind then, I wonder if I will be able to listen to it. He thought of things like that.

Latina, as if she was reluctant to leave, slid her hand across the rock once more. After doing so, she waved as if to part.

With that as the signal, the two of them turn their feet and start walking so that they can exit the forest.

(Speaking of which, Latina has never talked about her [Mother] before....)

-Dale holds that question within himself.

(Author's note: Like always, the story progresses with a casual feel.

Thank you very much for always continuing to read. I think I would be happy if you keep on reading from now on)

# **Chapter 30 – Frolicking through the Journey**

Added some images, and more covers to the page Also a link where u can buy the Japanese novels

#### Young Lady, Frolicking in the Journey

After they exited the forest south-west of Kroix, Dale placed Latina on the horse.

She, like a stubborn demon race, was still taking firm strides however Dale was not planning on having it too rough from the very first day.

"It's so high~?"

There was no sign of fear in Latina's voice, and he well understands that she has been merry from the get go.

"I guess we'll camp out today... since we'll probably reach a town tomorrow, so we'll stay there though"

If Dale was by himself then even if it was a bit tough, there had been circumstances where he would go forth anyway but, this time, he put together an itinerary with a little leeway.

Bringing along Latina, he has no plans to travel through the dangerous nights nor camping out day in, day out.

"Latina, is also fine with sleeping outside. As long as Latina is with Dale, Latina feels safe anyway"

Latina says with a big smile, and Dale feels the love as well.

These two, had a relationship of mutual love in a certain meaning.

Up on the horse, Latina was merry and started humming "HmJ Hm, HmmJ".

Her voice as well as her appearance, slightly swaying side to side with the rhythm appeared cute. However, it had strange musical intervals as usual.

It wasn't to the level of tone deafness but, at she doesn't put enough power into it at some points, failing it superbly. Dale holds in his impressions, looking like he was in futile admiration.

Latina continued humming for a little longer, amidst the tranquil sound of the hooves, clip clop.

(I feel like I've heard it before but... it's too peculiar so I seriously can't recall....)

Sometimes within his mind, Dale would guess the name of the song by himself but, the answer remained a mystery.

(TL: 時折心中で、デイルがひとりイントロクイズをしていたりもするのだが、答えは謎のままであった。)

It turned out to be quite a detour but, after going all the way to the main road, the sight of travelers could finally be seen bit by bit. Precisely because it's the connecting road from the harbour and royal capital, most of them were merchant-like carriages.

"Fuaaaa"

Latina gasped in amazement when they had passed by a party of merchants.

You could see the figures of merchants and merchant parties even at Kroix but, moving in a group like this is very overwhelming.

"There are heaps of adventurers too"

"That's because acting as the bodyguards for merchant parties like that is a pretty common job after all"

Latina's interest was clearly stolen by the rows of carriages and the armed forces who guard that.

Dale also slackens his steps, and answered her question.

Latina was looking every here and there from atop the horse as if everything was interesting.

(....If this continues then it might be better to just let her ride on the horse, before she starts looking tired...)

Latina is clever but, that doesn't mean she always knows what she's doing. All the more in a situation especially like this where her interest has been drawn.

"Dale, it's a big river"

Finding the sparkling surface of the water from atop her horse, Latina informs Dale with a loud voice as she points at it.

"Ahh. The river, north of Kroix continues from this point"

"How are we going to cross the river?"

"We pay the toll to the bridge guard. It's not a river we can cross by walking and, it's quicker than searching for a boat to cross it"

"What's a [bridge]?"

Sometimes Latina wouldn't know about things which seemed like common sense.

"It's easier to just look at it. Come on, you can see it soon"

The river is close the streets of Kroix, and boats that transport were also in abundance.

A great number of boats were docked on the riverbank, with the great number people working. At this place, the closest place between the main road and Kroix, they were loading and unloading cargo.

Although it certainly is not a town, for a place that gathers people, it is also quite natural that merchants would gather, targeting those people. Thus

creating scenery similar to a settlement, with countless stands lining up the place.

There were building which appear to be lodgings targeted for labourers but there were no inns. The travelers who have come to this point, do not first stop their feet here, and rather continue further until Kroix. Probably because there is no need to.

A bridge made to span such a large river, was built of splendid stone, with a slightly higher arch so that the passing boats would not be harmed. Because of that, the arch is drawn in a beautiful, distinct shape, and is marvelous even as an architectural structure.

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"It's so big...."

"This is a bridge. It's made to cross rivers"

"Wow"
```

Latina was excited. It seems that it really is her first time seeing a bridge.

(Then, I wonder if Latina came here by passing through the mountain range... on the other side of the <code>[forest]....</code> if she came to Kroix from the sea then, no matter how she arrived she should've had the opportunity to look at bridges)

Dale furthers his hypothesis at the sight of Latina.

Even further ahead passed the <code>[forest]</code>, stretched a steep mountain range. Beyond that point belongs to the Country of Raband on paper but, there are no towns. The reason being that the steep mountain range is a harsh and inconvenient land, and the fact that it holds the home of magic beasts in numbers that far surpass <code>Kroix's [forest]</code>.

There are adventurers who cross into that land in order to find rare materials or to accumulate experience but, no one's ever heard of a human settlement.

However, passing further than that, is the demon race's greatest power. It is

the land adjacent to the country of the [First Demon King]. So it's not impossible.

"Dale. Latina, wants to walk by myself. Please?"

As they line up to pay the toll to the bridge guard, Latina said such a thing. Dale carries her down and Latina walks as if she walks skipping around. No matter how you look at it, she seems to be having fun.

"Here you go"

Saying so, she happily handed over the coins that Dale had gave her to the bridge guard. Latina was doing it properly but, her immaturity could be seen with how she behaved.

Ahead of them, after passing the inspection, was the top of the structure which let them feel just how huge it was compared to looking at it from a distance.

"Uwahhhh"

Latina raises a cheer as she looked over at the surroundings sights from on top the bridge.

"Come on, Latina. It's dangerous to the people behind you if you suddenly stop"

"Ah. Sorry"

Latina says that, and stiffly looks forward. However, she couldn't hold back her skipping.

Dale shows a smile, taking Latina and coming to the edge of the bridge, and glanced down.

"Uwah. Wow. WOOWW"

Latina raised her voice once again at the flowing water surface way below her. When a boat passed under her, she made an even louder voice.

Latina reacts seemingly happily at observing the cargo and passengers,

resulting in Dale too, relaxing to show an extremely satisfied expression.

Past the bridge, going further north up the main road, estimating the time the sun starts to set, Dale strayed slightly from the main road. He steps into the shadows of the lush woods, filled with every kind of tree, and takes a look around.

```
"Dale?"
```

"Let's set up camp around here today"

"It's still bright? Already?"

Even though Latina is seemingly curious, Dale smiles and answers.

"Once it gets dark, we won't be able to prepare for camp right? However to make up for that, we raise early"

Where Dale had looked, there were no signs of large magic beasts. He had checked the grounds and looked for paw prints and poop and such. In a woods like this, there would probably be, at most, small animals and small carnivorous animals who target those. That is what he judges.

He ties to reins to a nearby tree, taking down the luggage and easing the horse. Doing so, he(the horse) pulls out the surrounding grass and eats it at his own pace.

"I'll be going to gather the firewood so, wait for me here Latina. Don't wander off anywhere by yourself ok"

"Un"

Latina nods at his warning, looking serious.

"If something happens, call out to me ok? Because I won't be too far away"

"Un. Latina'll be alright"

Sending off Dale, who appears to be worried, Latina fished through the luggage, with a rustle. She takes out a sturdily made, small pot that Kenneth had let her have.

"It's not bad and it's cheap, so take it. Dried meats and vegetables are fine so, they'll be for later"

She had even heard about the ingredients placed inside the bag, from Kenneth who was explaining everything the whole time he was preparing. She knew exactly where everything was.

She, with the very face of seriousness, points at and calls out each of them, then took out the necessary things.

"Don't waste. Because it's not worth it. Just use, what we need"
She words out the precautions.

During this trip, she had tried to accomplish one dream.

For the sake of that, she had prepared and practised, many, many times.

"It would be nice if Latina can make Dale say 'Delicious'"

Yosh! Firing herself up like so, Latina quickly took out her knife.

When Dale had come back, Latina had made a stove through arranging rocks, put the pot on top of that and was about to put in the potatoes they had brought whilst cutting them.

Dale was shocked at that sight, as he had no knowledge of ever teaching her that and,

"Dale, is this alright? Kenneth taught me. When there are rocks, put the pan on like this. Does it look right?"

Latina came to ask him.

"Ahh. You've even properly made a air hole... Kenneth taught you huh"

"Un. Latina practised. Um, you see *(anone)*. Because, Latina will be making the meals!"

And thus declared.

It is one of her dreams.

To cook for Dale's sake.

In order to realise that, to show off the results of her practise until now, is within this trip, although meager, a big goal for Latina.

(Author's note: To a great many of you. Thank you very much for reading.

The points and bookmarks have come to a point that I've never seen before, and I can't settle down thinking that something suspicious is going on.

Nonetheless I, can not write anything above my ability so, from now the story would continue to be casual like this, I think.

In addition to that, I would thank you to continue reading.

Since there isn't much stockpiled, there won't be an update for two days. Please understand and I hope you will continue to treat me well)

(TL: welp i'm still daily)

# Chapter 31 – Demonstrating her skill

Yes I don't translate Kawaii cause everybodies grandmother to imoutos know the meaning... i should get an editor :L I wanted this out earlier so I scheduled it nicer :3

### Young Lady, Demonstrating her skill

She directly drops the potato into the pot as she cuts them.

This too, is something she had practised for the sake of cooking outdoors. Normally at the <code>[Dancing Ocelot]</code>, she would use the cutting board but, during a trip, you want to prepare by using the minimum amount of tools and washing. That is what her master, Kenneth taught her.

After Latina finishes up with cutting the potatoes, she filled the pot with water using the magic tool that she took out from her rucksack.

Then putting the firewood that Dale brought back into the stove. Inside, a mountain of dried grass had already been made. Then by using the <code>[Fire starting]</code> magic tool, she sets fire to the dried grass.

At Latina's prompt movements, Dale also decides to leave the cooking to her.

He tidies up the surroundings a little bit, trying to make the campgrounds a little more pleasant. He doesn't mind but when Latina is resting, it would probably be unpleasant should even a rock fall.

Even as Dale was arranging the luggage, Latina's cooking continued.

What she had continued to cut whilst adding into the pot was sausages, thus making a soup which would taste better than just meat. After that, Latina took out a small container. The inside had dehydrated herbs. She carefully tips it, adding it to the soup.

Lastly, she adds the seasoning, making sure of the taste and then, kokuri, nods

once.

Following this, Latina takes out a paper bag. The bread inside was just something normal so it couldn't be stored for long, thus needs to be eaten quickly. Wiping the knife once, she cuts it with a serious look on her face. She pierces it with a large cooking-use fork, and toasts it with the fire. (TL: oh right these things)

Finally she places cheese on the bread and toasts it once again. When it looked melty and about right, Latina looked towards Dale.

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"Dale. Dinner is ready"

"Ahh"
```

A soup made with extremely simple ingredients.

However, for outdoor adventurers, something like the meals and cooking are a luxury, and so it's not rare for meals to end with just the gnawing of dried meat and hard bread.

At the sight of her working skillfully in such a short time, Dale was also moved.

Serving two plates from the pot, Latina hands the bread over to Dale.

"Latina, will be full from just the potatoes so, the bread is only Dale's share"

"I see"

Dale scoops up the soup, eats it, and smiled.

"It's delicious"

"Really?"

"Ahh. The toasting of the bread is just right as well"

Being praised by Dale, Latina looked glad, and eats her share. Particularly when this child is eating, she gives the impression of a small animal moving.

Kawaii.

"I had thought so as well when I had partied with Kenneth but, when the cooking is good, the trip also becomes pleasant, naa"

"Together with Kenneth?"

"Ahh"

Latina seemed extremely happy at Dale's words.

"But, Kenneth's cooking is still more delicious. Latina, will try harder"

Mun. At Latina firing up herself like that, Dale also smiled.

"At least, it's much better than what I can make. It's just as Latina says, during this trip, Latina, you'll be in charge of the meals"

"Un. Latina'll try my best"

With a blooming smile, Latina accepted like so.

She even finished cleaning up quickly.

During that time, the sun had gone completely down; the sky which was of a sunset colour when they had been eating, had become completely dark.

As they listen to the, bachi bachi, sound of the firewood bursting open, Latina was slowly nodding her head off to sleep.

She had been in considerably high spirits but, she wasn't used to the journey. She's probably tired.

Dale smiles and gently strokes Latina.

"Don't force yourself. Sleep early. It'll be early tomorrow"

"Nn... Nn.... Dale....?"

"I'll also take a nap. It'll be alright so, don't worry"

"....Un. Good night, Dale...."

Trying to roll up in her blanket, Latina laid down and immediately started to

quietly let out breaths indicating she was asleep. The regular sounds of her slightly out of tune breathing, which he is already familiar with.

Dale watches over Latina's sleeping face with a gentle expression.

It was a journey with just the two of them. There is no reason to not be vigilant. Like always, he makes sure his sword was beside him so that he can grab hold of it at any time and closes his eyes as he sat.

He had become accustomed to immediately open his eyes when traveling, should he sense anything out of the ordinary.

The night was extremely quiet, with only Latina's presence next to him.

Until the morning sun had risen, there was nothing that had appeared to disturb their sleep.

Although, Dale would sometimes open his eyes and add firewood the the vanishing bonfire. And though it was the beginning of spring, the nights were still cold. There was no way he would allow Latina to be cold.

Dale wakes up and, first, looked at Latina next to him. She was fast asleep.

Rather than saying she has a strong will, it seems that Latina can sleep relatively anywhere. It seemed that was the case when she took her afternoon naps at <code>[Dancing Ocelot]</code> as well.

After that he checks the state of the bonfire. Normally it should've been this that he takes notice of first but, it seems that he had unconsciously ended up worrying about Latina.

"....Latina, wake up"

Gently putting his hands on her and shaking her, Latina squirmed restlessly.

"Nn... Nnn? Dale....?"

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"What's up?"
```

From within her blanket, even though Latina called out his name as if she was troubled, when he asked her back in return, she turns towards Dale with half asleep eyes, and thought for a little quite.

"Fuaaaa"

She blinks with surprise and wakes up.

It seems she was still half asleep. Latina slowly gets up and, plop, sticks onto Dale.

"Nn? What's up, Latina?"

"Surprised. Because, Latina is usually sleeping next to Dale"

She smiles shyly, ehehe.

"Latina. Was in the middle of a journey!"

"That's right"

Dale laughs back in return and hugs Latina tightly.

Maybe it's because Latina had that kind of past but, it seems she sometime wants company. She doesn't say anything selfish when she's made to stay at home but, other than those times she would often want to stay by Dale's side like this.

Since it's not like Dale doesn't like it or anything, he lets her do as she likes.

Or rather, he has no plans of allowing anyone other than himself to be spoiled by Latina like this.

Thinking to that extent, his act of being a doting parent is hardcore.

Latina gets up, tidies her blanket and starts preparing for breakfast.

Toasting two people's worth of bread over the bonfire, she cuts the cheese and hands it over.

It was something simple but, when he thinks it's the breakfast that Latina made, the taste doubles.

"Today we'll advance just like this through the main road, and go to the town. If you get tired or if your feet start hurting, tell me immediately"

"Un. Latina understands"

"We still have enough ingredients and such as well... I might as well let Latina take care of the food management as well so, tell me ahead of time if there's anything we need"

"Is it alright for Latina to do it!?"

Dale faces the sight of the surprised Latina with a somewhat serious face.

"Latina, you don't like it when I do everything right? You're thinking that you want to do whatever you can do right?"

"Un.... how do you know?"

"Well of course I would know, since it's about Latina"

Dale says and laughed. This earnest and firm young girl, is also holding this type of independence above her age.

He wouldn't try to do something as reckless and irresponsible as leaving everything to her from the start. However, even Dale definitely acknowledges that with Latina's cleverness, she would be alright no matter what job she is in charge of.

For her, as long as she is taught then, it's probably so much so that she can understand it perfectly.

"Since Latina is my partner during this journey"

"Un. Latina, wants to do whatever Latina can"

He feels strange after looking at Latina with her smile full of motivation.

This kid, I wonder just how much she'll end up growing during this journey. He thinks of something like that.

(....Even though it would be nice if she, for just a little while longer, would stay as the tiny Latina who would rely on me)

Underneath his happy thoughts about her growing up, he wonders if it was selfish of him that he ended up thinking of something like that.

Cleaning up the bonfire, and putting the luggage on the horse once again, they start walking in order to return to the main road.

The weather is nice and calm today as well.

(Author's note: If something extravagant was cooked then it wouldn't seem like the start of a journey... however, if it's too simple then it wouldn't seem tasty

. . . . .

It's hard to find a balance.

I've wrote this before but, regarding the cooking aspect of this fantasy, it's done in an extremely fuzzy way)

(TL: damn... shy Latina, favourite Latina.. so cute)

# **Chapter 32 – Arriving at the Inn Town**

Uni starts in a week so I can't be a neet no more :v who knows how often I can transliterate Also trying for more understandable translations? idk... translatings hard Yay~ half a mil views o3o

#### Young Lady, Arriving at the Inn Town

Although there are some gentle up and downs, the main road heading to the harbour became a distance easy to walk.

As one might expect from an important highway from which foreign countries transport their goods to the royal capital, it was renovated at set intervals. Even if you look around now, you can see the sight of labourers, shaving off and fixing the part of the road which had a hole in it.

"Hey Dale. Chloe was worried about thieves and stuff. Are they here?"

"Well, since it is a passage for carriages full of valuables, of course there'll be some. But, this area is still near Kroix so, there aren't many"

"Is that how it is?"

"If they take measures to deal with them then, those adventurer fellows will gather at the blink of an eye you know? Although there are also thieves who were former adventurers... normally, the ones pursuing are the ones who have a hard time dealing with them"

With the clip clop of hooves as the BGM, the two of them talk as they walk.

"Ahead of the inn town that we're staying in today, is a little bit dangerous I suppose.... I hear that those kind of people come out every now and then"

"Is it alright?"

"Ahh. Because I'll properly protect Latina. Worried?"

"Latina is alright, since Dale is here"

As Dale smiles at Latina revealing her blooming smile, filled with trust from the bottom of her heart,

(To just kill them all, is actually a lot easier though sigh. I don't really want to show Latina such a cruel scene)

He says that kind of dangerous monologue.

(Ahh. But if they turn their weapons to Latina then, I, might just flip shit)

As he thinks of such things, Dale was patting the nearby Latina with a lazy smiling face so, the things called humans, were unable to guess what he is thinking and the like, from the outside.

It seems Latina, who normally lived in the confined space called Kroix, felt that the outside world was extravagantly wide.

It's as if she is seeing something entirely different, even the sights that Dale finds ordinary.

Climbing up the gentle slope of the main road, was also the moment that had widened her field of vision. Latina shouts in joy, looking over at her surroundings.

Far away, stretched a blue and hazy mountain range, whilst a forest and plains lay in front of it. And in front of that extended a crop region that had been growing wheat and such.

"So big! Wow!"

"Is that so? ....It might be so. Come on, Latina, you can see it off in the distance. That is the town we're staying at today"

"Uwahhhh"

It appears as if Latina was trying to look even just a bit further with an excited appearance. Lining up her hand to her forehead like a roof, she lightly skipped around.

Even her platinum coloured hair, which had been arranged and parted into

two parts, was shaking intensely as it reflected the light.

"Don't frolic around too much ok? You'll end up getting tired before reaching the town"

"Un!"

Replying energetically, She lines up next to Dale.

Taking breaks here and there, they arrive at the town before the sun goes down as planned.

The inn town [Haaz] is a small town which couldn't even be compared with Kroix.

As if you can see just by looking at the surrounding crop regions, the main industry is agriculture and it's this type of town which also supports the abundance of Kroix.

It also prospers as a place to stop by, as it is, at the same time, along the main road.

There are even a variety of inns, from high class one targeted for wealthy merchants, to cheap inns where several people are crammed into one room.

Dale bribes the gate keeper who protect the wall surrounding the town with a little money and asked him.

If this was him normally then, there's no problem with any inn as long as he can sleep. However, this time he is bringing along Latina. Which is why he wants to request for a certain level of security installed.

"It's different to Kroix huh. The atmosphere of the homes are different too"

"However this area is still on the more lively side. Places like my hometown is too far out into the countryside, Latina will be surprised I think..."

Haaz's buildings are on the whole, quite plain.

You wouldn't be able to see walls plastered with mortar or paints like in Kroix. The colours of the roofs too, were red, similar to the style in Raband but, maybe the paints are different, it was a dull, depressing red.

However, you could say that in some ways, that landscape is the grace of the countryside.

The one Dale had chosen, was a mid-rank inn that held a stable.

He unloads the luggage from the horse he was pulling along, and enters inside. Latina couldn't seem to calm down, looking around restlessly.

He went and approached the Okami tending the store, who had a rather good figure. (TL: a female innkeeper)

"Is there a room available?"

"Ahh. Is one room alright?"

"No problem. Also, I'll be using the stable. I'll leave the water and fodder to you"

"It'll cost extra"

"I understand"

Looking at the key that the Okami handed over, he calls Latina over. Even during that exchange of Dale's, she was only observing the surroundings eagerly, as if she was possessed.

This inn was similar to [Dancing Ocelot], and was made so that the first floor is a dining room and the second floor are the guest rooms.

Dale and Latina's room was the corner room on the far end of the second floor.

Opening the windows, you can look out over all the way to the wall on the

other side of town; if you desire a view then it was not a bad room. If it's safety though, then the inner rooms are better. However after seeing the joyous face on Latina's face, he stopped worrying about such trivial things.

The manners of the Okami is another thing but, the room has a sense of cleanliness which was not bad at all.

In between the two lined up beds, maintained a certain amount of space and the wideness was also enough.

Dale drops the luggage in the corner and uninstalled his gauntlet then, took off his coat.

Latina too, seeing him do that, drops the luggage on her back and removes her knife. Having become lighter she jumped around, like a rabbit.

"Um, you know (anone), Dale....)

"If you want to stroll around, don't. Because there'll be plenty of walking to do tomorrow"

Having the words she wanted to say be beaten to the punch, Latina made a shocked face.

"I understand that you want to look all around but you know, we'll be passing through a lot of towns from here on. Please rest properly when it's time to rest."

"....Un"

Looking at Latina, who nodded although she looked dejected, Dale let out a sigh.

Dale doesn't want to make Latina have this kind of face either but, judging from this child's high spirits, if he let her go then she would definitely want to look everywhere until she collapses.

Here it would be better if he warns her once.

"In exchange, once we reach the port town [Cuvare], let's do a little

sightseeing. Control yourself until then"

Latina brightens up at those words.

His reason probably being that he (Dale) is being himself (a doting parent), thus couldn't leave her alone, having made her sad.

As one would expect from mid-rank inns, even bathing equipment had been prepared.

With her pleasantly warm expression after a bath, Latina came to the table. Taking a glance at the menu cheerfully.

"Latina, what do you want to eat?"

"Latina wants to eat something, Latina has never eaten before. Kenneth too, you know, said that eating different foods from different places is also studying"

"Ahh".... That was indeed how Kenneth was..."

At any rate, I wonder if this girl is aiming to becoming a chef when she becomes of age.

Somehow it feels like she's gradually becoming genuine regarding the path of cooking and meals though.

(Well... Kenneth too didn't feel like he understood, even though he was an adventurer but, he was also a chef.... I guess she's just like her master...)

As he remembers the face of the man who he treated as a brother, and her master, Dale drained the cup of ale, he rarely ordered.

"Nnnn.... Uun?"

Although, there wasn't anything particularly novel on the menu. Hence because this region is near an agriculture field, Latina ordered various assortments of Grilled Vegetables and Fritters. Dale ordered a quite ordinary

Grilled Chicken. The bread on the side were served in stacks, and it was a nice system where you could eat as much as you want, precisely because this area produces wheat.

"Nnnn..."

"What's wrong? Latina"

"These vegetables... it would've been good if they fried it a little slower with a little more care"

When he asks a question to Latina who was tilting her head in doubt as she ate, the response that he got from her, exceeded Dale's expectations.

"If it was done like that, it would have had a sweeter taste"

"Ohh.... you know the difference?"

"Because Kenneth taught Latina. This one here is tasty"

Looking at the freshly grown sprouts fritter which had a slightly bitter taste, Latina was nodding agreeably.

(Latina's cooking skill.... might be greater than I had thought, naa....)

Looking at the figure of Latina, chewing the bread thoroughly and steadily, confirming the taste, Dale reconfirmed her high specs.

After he finishes with the bath, Dale returns to the room and, Latina, who he had let return back to the room earlier, was writing something inside a small note book.

As Dale tries to take a peek at it, she suddenly panics and tries to hide it.

He took notice of that.

(TL: その仕草で気付いた。)

"A diary?"

"Latina's writing about the trip. It's embarrassing so, you can't look at it"

"I see. Sorry. Are you writing things which would worry me if I end up read it?"

"It's embarrassing so you can't look at it, nano"

It's unusual to see the sight of Latina slightly shaking her head. When it comes to Dale, as long as it's not something major, this girl wouldn't say no.

(It sure makes me curious if you say that it's no good...)

Be that as it may, he also thinks that is he keeps insisting, he might never be able to get back on his feet if he becomes hated by her.

Given that he had only napped last night, Dale is also aware that he has been accumulating fatigue.

He had told Latina as well but, it's important to properly rest when it's time to rest.

After he checks that the doors to the room are locked, he got into bed. At the sight of that, Latina makes a slightly panicked face.

Chasing after him, she gets onto the blanket covering Dale and wap wap, taps him.

"Dale, Dale. Um, you know (anone)..."

"Nn?"

"Is it no good, for Latina to sleep next to Dale?"

"...Is it because we usually sleep next to each other?"

When Dale returns the question at Latina's remark, she thinks a little then,

"Waking up at an unknown place, Latina will be a little surprised. It's safe, next to Dale"

"I see.... it's an unfamiliar journey after all. You would be on edge"

After Dale agrees, he gets up slowly and looks at the surroundings.

The bed is made for one person so it's slightly cramped for two people to sleep side by side. The bed placed in their bedroom at Kroix is quite wide.

"So, while we're at it Latina. I'll also teach you the spell for 《GravityReduction》. Listen carefully. Since it's quite useful"

Saying that, Dale chants the spell, slower than he would normally.

"<Oh Black Darkness, Thy Origins of Thy Name commands Thou, Cut apart the binding of the stars (Gravity Reduction)>"

Using the spell, he touches the other bed laying nearby. Under the effect of the weight manipulating spell, he was able to lift it easily.

Rearranging it so it lines up right next to the former. He moved it carefully so that it wouldn't make too loud a sound.

"There's a little difference in height but, is this fine?"

"Un. Thanks Dale"

Latina smiles happily, and slips into the next bed.

Dale smiles as well, as if attracted by that happy expression of hers.

(Maybe it's not just Latina, I might also feel more at ease like this...)

At a distance where he can feel Latina's body temperature, what Dale thought of right before he fell asleep, was something like that.

(Author's note: Dale-san.... you sure won't change... I think as I write this.

In the future Latina will leave her name in the world of cooking... maybe. ... Etc etc, so won't you please gently watch over her from hereon as well.

Thank you very much for reading)

# **Chapter 33 – Going to the Sea**

woops, so all the times I've been translating 保護者as guardian, but checking the older paragraphs it had been redefined as parent and i forgot, heh... and that's why an idiot like me should create glossary or edit better but hey~ yolo Edit: I apologise for the yolo... also thanks Eliss for clearing up a line for me

#### Young Lady, Going to the Sea

After they left Haaz, and going through several campsites and inn towns, the two of them arrived at the Port City Cuvare.

Cuvare has a different grace compared to the towns up until now.

The red vivid roofs were the same as the other towns but, all the buildings have been coated with white mortar, and have a brilliant green emblem painted on them.

It is because they not only wish for the protection of the primary god in the country of Raband, Red God(Ahmar) but also the protection of the god who protects commerce and governs the ocean at the same time, Blue God(Azraq).

Hence, the town of Cuvare which is filled with the fragrance of the sea, has an extremely brilliant and characteristic scenery.

"It's the sea~!'

Immediately after going into Cuvare, Latina sees the sea and shouted out with great joy.

"Dale, Dale! Sea, is it alright to go out to the sea!?"

"Calm down Latina. First we have to settle in an inn and drop off our luggage"

Dale smiles wryly as he points the their other [companion] next to Latina.

"This guy has to rest too"

"It was like that... sorry, Braoh"

Latina scratches the horse's nose as she says that.

It seems that she had named the horse without Dale noticing.

He had planned to let it go once this journey was over but, he realised too late that Latina might end up becoming attached to it before then.

Dale had chosen, at Cuvare, an inn that cost them the most yet.

Grade-wise, the establishment and rooms were not that different to the inns up till now. The difference in cost was solely the security price.

Every room requires a magic tool key, and it's precisely because of that, that the people of the inn are extremely aware that safety is one of their selling points.

That is different from their inns until now, it means that even if they left their luggage there, there was a certain level of security guaranteed.

They planned to stay at Cuvare for three nights.

It's also about time their fatigue would show. Thus it was a decision made from the considerations of not just sightseeing but also the desires of wanting to rest properly.

Placing down their luggage, he removes the gauntlet. He left his coat and long sword with him. After that Dale looks towards Latina where she had becoming lighter, having taken off the rucksack on her back and the knife.

She neatly places it in the corner of the room, showing her methodical personality.

"Hey, Dale. If it's after this town, can Latina send a letter to Kroix?"

"A regular service goes out after all. So, sure"

"If that's the case. Later, Latina will write a letter to Chloe and Rita!"

Latina declared that with a cheerful smile.

"Then... so that you can write that letter, we're going to have to go looking around Cuvare, right"

"Yes!"

Even for Dale himself, [sightseeing] is something he hasn't done in a long time. He goes out on trips frequently but, it's usually for work. It feels a little refreshing.

Above all, he is together with a Latina this cute, being joyful and looking happy throughout this trip.

There's no way Dale himself wouldn't become cheerful as well.

Cuvare is a town with a strange scenery.

That is probably not because of the buildings. This town, the window to foreign countries, although is in the country of Raband, somehow makes you feel the atmosphere of another country. Together with that, is probably what makes up the [Ambience] of this town.

The people walking down the roads are also largely affected by that. Every now and then they would pass by people who are wearing clothing, accessories as well unique things which they had never seen before in this country.

"Fuaaaa...."

At the sight of Latina hanging her mouth open, Dale also loosens up his expression.

Coming out from the heart of Cuvare, the two of them came to the harbour.

The sunlight, kira kira, glistening along the water's surface was also a large cause of excitement for Latina but, currently she's fixated on the large merchant's ship which had just come into the harbour.

Maybe it's because she's looking up but, her mouth had opened much more

than before.

"Amazing..... Dale. This ship. Where did it come from I wonder"

"Nn? See, there's a flag hoisted there. That emblem is...."

When Dale points to it, teaching her, Latina nodded quickly.

"From a country from far away right"

"Ahh. That's right"

"Amazing. This is all a first for Latina!"

Looking at Latina who was leaning forward, viewing the ship curiously, he quietly supports her with his hand so that she doesn't end up falling.

Having come to the point where he has such considerations, he was already a splendid [Parent].

At a corner of a <u>rocky beach</u>, Latina was staring wide eyed looking at the sight of wharf roaches all rustling at the same time.

It's true that this kind of spectacle isn't often seen downtown.

Latina intentionally goes under the shade, observing the roaches moving.

(... She's completely fine with bugs and such...)

Well, since Latina was fine even with magic beasts as her opponent, something like bugs are probably no big deal.

(....But, to catch them with her bare hands.... I better stop her....) Latina is unexpectedly wild.

Before going to eat lunch, they went to go take a look at the market at Latina's strong request.

As expected, only at a harbour would all sorts of seafoods be abundantly lined up.

Even in Kroix, there would sometimes be saltwater fish sold.

It was something that had been transported there and uses cooling magic tools quite a lot. Just the fee of the transportation was expensive so, it became a high class food that commoner rarely ate.

The sight of the many types of variety, incomparable to that in Kroix, all lined up in a row made quite a magnificent view.

"There's so many fish"

Latina stared wide eyed, walking as she looks at the fishes. Speaking of sea animals, there are many with their own individual shapes, and forms. A gigantic, expressionless fish was placed on the floor however, Latina was surprised and jumps with a start.

Is what he thought but, the next moment she, pata pata, ran up to the next store over.

"Uwah.... this, how do you eat this?"

As she tries to poke as the sea urchin, covered entirely with tough spikes, Latina tiled her head.

"You eat the insides"

"Ohhhh...."

The sea urchin, as if it was still alive, gently moved it's spikes. Latina nodded whilst her interest had been completely stolen away at the sight of that.

They ate lunch at one of the shops inside the market.

Especially since there is such a variety of fish. There's no way they wouldn't eat that.

Sitting down in front of a heated net, they grill the fresh products of the sea that had been carried over onto their plates in stacks.

With tongs in one of her hands, Latina was excited.

So much so that, if she had a dog's tail, it would definitely swing back and forth. She looks extremely happy.

"Dale. This, how do we eat this?"

The grey, hard lump that she had first set her eyes upon, after heating it up, the part which had looked like a lid, was jumping uncontrollably.

Dale pours the liquid that appeared to be seasoning into that as if it was natural.

"You see.... you pick out the insides by poking at it here with a skewer"

Dale demonstrates it to her as he says it, taking out the meat of the shellfish with a sudden shake and Latina basks him in praise.

"Wow! It's looks fun"

"You wanna try as well Latina? Be careful, it's hot"

"Un"

She, with the very face of seriousness, carefully pokes the skewer into the shell. Pulling it out with the skewer just like she saw.

"It's out!"

It seem she had some trouble for a little bit but, Latina succeeded at extracting the meat from inside the shell without any problems. Imitating Dale, she bites at its tip.

"Fua! It's bitter...."

Latina looked surprised due a bitterness beyond her expectations. Dale laughs and, "The tip is where the innards are after all.... if you don't like it you can leave it behind?"

He had said that but, Latina looked determined.

"This is also learning so, it's ok!"

(....Seriously, even professional chefs would pale in comparison....) Just how high is her sense of professionalism I wonder. This girl.

They were even having their fill of grilled fish and prawns.

"When Latina, first met Dale, Latina got a fish, right"

"That's right"

Latina smiles towards him as she flips the fish around on top of the net.

"Today Latina will give the fish Latina grilled to Dale. Eat up, ok"

"Ahh. Keep on grilling them. Because if it's the fish that Latina grilled then, I can eat lots, you see"

Today too, he was his normal self.

Holding their full stomachs, they leave the store and resume their walk of the market.

Gradually leaving the harbour, the shops that sell various sorts of fish diminish. In it's place, the things that became more noticeable was the countless types of goods gathered from foreign countries.

When they were thinking whether there would be a shop where a diversity of spices and condiments are lined up, they came across a shop which displayed a cloth with a strange pattern, one clearly different from the preference of those within the country of Raband.

Peeking inside the bowl shop, the bowls were painted with peculiarly vivid ceramic arts where even the strokes were unique.

Here, is a [Foreign Country] turned chaotic.

Miscellaneous goods which weren't of this country's is overflowing. Travelers, foreigners, merchants come and go. An [extraordinary] world filled with other unique worlds and atmospheres.

Latina's eyes were sparkling from start to end.

For Latina, who was brimming with curiosity, everything probably captures her

interest. It's understandable.

Dale laughs then calls out to her.

"Latina"

"Whaaat?"

"There's a lot of people so.... it'll be troublesome if you get lost. Give me your hand"

He tightly grips the small hand that had been held out.

After she looked slightly surprised, Latina looks up at Dale then smiled brilliantly.

And thus after this, the two of them wandered around the market whilst holding hands.

(Author's note: Whilst writing, I ended up seriously wanting to eat Sazae no Tsuboyaki (TL: Turban Shell Cooking?).... I leave the seasoning that Dale poured up to your imagination.

If it has no relation to the progression of the story, I wonder if it's alright to to not write up the setting~ is what I think about)

**Next Chapter** 

# Chapter 34 – Meeting a person from the same village

I made a mistake... and this is why I don't like editing multiple docs at once :L The real chapter 34

### Young Lady, Meeting with a person from the same village

From within their luggage, he takes out some slightly good clothes then changes into them.

That is because the place to two of them are heading to now, although wasn't to the level of being called a high class establishment, was still a shop which is many grades higher than the cheap restaurants they usually stop by.

It doesn't mean there are none at all but, it seems the sight of travelers or adventurers carrying their dangerous weapons is frowned upon.

When he had asked about it from the people in the inn, he was able to learn from them the most recommended restaurant in this neighbourhood. It seems to be an establishment which embraces fresh seafood as their specialty, as well as an establishment where you can enjoy yourself as you listen to the performances of a band. It's said to be a shop where you can taste a special feeling above the price, and even the fish dishes make the people of the harbour satisfied.

The night's wind is harmful to the body so the cape she put on was the usual one but, Latina is wearing her favourite pink one piece.

She also did her hair, tying it up with a lace ribbon, her treasure. Putting in her all. Her level of anticipation is peeping through.

On the pouch with the Ocelot figure that's always placed on her belt, there is a

pochette hanging diagonally, tied together with a long string.

Turning around slowly inside the room, her skirt and silver hair drew an arc.

"You sure are in high spirits. Latina."

"Un! Latina, is looking forward to the restaurant"

Dale himself too, dressed himself up with a shirt and trousers, clothes more formal than normal. Being unarmed is, on the contrary, dangerous so a knife is suspended by his waist. For purposes other than fighting, he would always use this knife during travels or work.

"It'll be terrible if you got kidnapped! So never leave my side"

When they leave the inn, Dale said that.

No matter how you look at it, he's worried about the figure of the lovely girl. If you see a girl as charming as this then, even those who aren't bad people might end up giving in to temptation. This type of unease exists in the surroundings of Latina.

"(Anone, narane) Um, you know, in that case, Dale. Is it alright to hold hands?"

Given that Latina made such a cute-like request, Dale responds immediately. When the warmth passing through her palm is transmitted to her, Latina smiles happily.

The evening goes by, they walk side by side in the middle of the town, that had become thick with the sign of night.

The town of Cuvare amidst the dim lights, becomes a view stranger than the day.

The red roofs hide the vibrance, slowly setting down, the white chalk walls had a tinge of pale blue. The blue pattern drawn on the walls change to a richer color closer to black, running down the length of the town.

The lights leaking out from every home, causes the colour to return every here

and there. That grows faintly hazy, and once again melt into the world of blue.

-Wondering if a world submerged under the sea would feel like this. It had become such a fantastical sight.

".... They say Cuvare, at this time, right after the sun has set in is when it's the most beautiful"

"Wow...."

Maybe she was overawed by the beautiful scenery, Latina gave forth words of admiration almost as if whispering. Almost like if she thinks that by speaking out loudly, this world would end up being destroyed. Quietly showing her appreciation with her sparkling eyes.

It's just right at a time when people have also stopped passing through, thus the two of them were able to have a taste of the luxury, monopolising this short duration beautiful scenery to themselves.

It's precisely because they had come going pass such a quiet and blue town center, that [Silent Seagull], an establishment with it's concept contrary to it's name, gave them an impression similar to another world.

The moment the doors opened, a dazzling light, as if it would make you forget that is was night, came bursting out at them.

Many people — The crowds of customers enjoying their meals, and the uniform wearing employees who seem busy, working hard. And then, in the center of such an establishment, on a stage ordered to be one level higher, the sigh of several musicians playing a gentle yet brilliant melody. — They were engulfed for countless moments in such enthusiasm from all the people and the torrent of sound.

"Uwaaahhh..."

Dyeing her cheeks with a rosy colour, Latina made her eyes twinkle.

Even now she's restraining her urge of wanting to jump and skip around but, Dale, who's standing next to her understood well. Killing his urge to laugh that boiled up.

It seems that this little [Princess] wants to behave ladylike today, just as how she had dressed up.

Even when they were guided to a table, Latina was very well behaved.

This girl is originally on the side with better manners but, normally she would take an interest in her surroundings and should be looking around restlessly from start to finish. The sight of her sitting down in her chair with a slightly composed face is both rare, and seems cute.

However, at her exceedingly charming appearance, Dale kept his lips from slacking.

He may be a failure as playing the escort role for this [Lady].

At the stores that they usually go, there's many cases where they share from a big plate. Which was why, at this store where the food is served to you on one plate at a time, Latina was extremely happy.

With exquisite arrangement, the top of the plate was vivid and colourful.

She cheerfully looks at the poele that had been placed in front of her, as if wondering where she should start eating.

Since Latina can't really eat so much, she looked through the menu entrusted to her and had selected very, very carefully. She makes a face as if she also found the plate that Dale is eating from to be interesting as well but, it seems she knows that if she eats this and that now, she won't be able to finish her dessert.

To Dale who comes in and out of the Duke's house, just by thinking about it, he becomes able to eat a meal with the proper manners. It's the minimal amount of

conduct techniques required after all. Although he had never shown that side of him in front of Latina, it appeared she had noticed that the way Dale is eating slightly differently from normal.

She copies him as she takes peeks at him.

Dale too, of course, notices her. Which is precisely why, in order for him to become her role model right now, he is aiming for conduct which appears intentionally beautiful.

The fact that he is worked up about something like that and such, is not shown on his face.

That is his pride as her [parent].

The dessert too, once again, came exquisitely arranged.

Various types of cakes had been lined up, a gorgeous plate that had been decorated with fruits and sauce.

"Uwaaaaah"

Latina raises a joyful voice at a moderate volume.

Cutting the cake into bite size portions, she ate it and made a cute face.

Dale ended his dessert with some refreshing ice. It wasn't to the level of hate but, he doesn't eat things that sweet.

Or rather, his dessert is probably the look of happiness on Latina's face. That's just how healing she is for the heart. A sight for sore eyes.

Just at that time, the music changed.

A quiet melody as if inviting nostalgia is, was something that made this town of Cuvare feel like it had the atmosphere of a foreign country.

Looking at the stage, having been charmed by that, a lone female musician was plucking at the strings on an unfamiliar string instrument.

Her head was wrapped in a purple cloth brimming with an exotic feel, a gold accessory was dangling down noisily. What she had clad around her slender figure was also a dress with a style you wouldn't see in the country of Rabando. Wearing a gold sash, and hanging from her neck, there were somewhat large beads connected together to make a necklace.

That foreign looking woman was, playing a foreign melody.

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"Hey....Dale...."
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Latina who had noticed that his interest was drawn, also faced the stage and tilted her small head.

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"What's up?"
"That person.... demon race?"
"....Why do you think that?"
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Due to the cloth wrapped around her head, you were unable to confirm the appearance of the horns, the greatest feature of the demon race. Not even Dale could come to that conclusion.

Latina points to one aspect at his question.

"That person's bracelet.... it's the same as Latina's"

On the musicians upper left arm, there was a silver bracelet.

That, which was only letting off a radiance of a simple metal, becomes something that looked natural as a part of her, and you wouldn't even stop to take a look at it until she had said that.

"It's true.... it looks very similar.... to the bracelet Latina has"

Could it be that it was something of important meaning.

[Human Race (We)] don't know too much about the [Demon Race]. He ended up noticing that.

"That bracelet.... I wonder what kind of item it is..."

Latina muttered quietly.

"Rag told Latina to properly hold onto it. The bracelet you see, there's something written on the inside"

"Is that so?"

"Un. .....But you know, Latina.... can't read whatever is written there. Since before Latina was taught letters, Latina left, the place Latina was born..."

At the sight of Latina showing a slightly lonely smile, Dale promptly decides.

He calls to a person of the store, and entrusts them with a tip as well as a message.

Entrusted them to send a reply back to the inn that they are staying at.

If she accepts then, he can probably hear the story.

About the demon race. —- And then, maybe, information connected to this small girl from the demon race.

When they left the restaurant, wanting for her, who seemed to have become down, to smile, Dale returned taking a detour as he held her hand tightly.

At the special feeling, that was strolling in the night streets which they normally don't do, when they had arrived at their inn, he had been able to clear away the gloom from Latina's face.

He took a breath of relief.

(I want.... Latina to keep smiling...)

Thinking like that, Dale too gently smiled.

-Like this, the first day at Cuvare passed.

(Author's note: To be kidnapped is terrible.

To be kidnapped (According the the enraged [Parent], the criminal, as well as the town of Cuvare which will be dragged into it) is terrible.

Thank you very much for always continuing to read.)

(TL: I'm going to be needing an editor, if you're interested in editing UchiMusume please edit any one of the chapters, and send it to me in one way of another at konobutatrans@gmail.com)

# **Chapter 35 – Listening to the sound of rain**

Did something stupid, the real chapter 35

No joke this was supposed to be out last sunday, but then twitch watches pokemon and then uni gg... if you want to help me read to the end~ there's two more chapters to be editted and i rather not...

### Young Lady, Listening to the sound of rain.

It was raining the next day.

That is actually convenient. It's a good opportunity for Latina, who hasn't been still, looking around every here and there, to rest peacefully.

Dale thinks like that.

Listening to the sound of rain from inside their room.

Since it didn't seem to be raining heavily, thus he opens the window to see, and the town of Cuvare was quietly enveloped in thin grey smoke.

Latina was gazing at such a town.

Whenever she found something, she would sometimes try and lean forward, motionlessly focusing at that one point in a trance. That in it's own way, seems to be one way to enjoy this quiet period of time.

Dale decided that this was the opportunity to do a careful inspection of their luggage.

Not just the amount to restock on consumables such as food but, there is also a need to check whether or not the tools are deteriorating or anything like that. Since he is prone to postponing it during camping or lodgings where they stay for only a night, an opportunity like this is precious.

Without a need to speak, they spend their time as they feel each other's presence nearby.

It was calm, quiet, and yet not bad of a time.

Lunch was also just something they went and bought, so after they easily finished it, the two of them drowsily took a nap next to each other. Time was flowing slowly, within the sound of rain.

The message from [Silent Seagull] came after their afternoon nap, and was around when Latina was humming agreeably in front of her letter. She was making a difficult face as there was too much she wanted to write yet wouldn't fit in the letter.

Dale verifies the card handed to him and, entrusts the response to the messenger along with a gratuitous tip.

"....Then, please tell her we'll visit tomorrow"

"As you wish"

After the messenger left, looking next to him, Latina had been standing there at some point. She looks up at him then asks.

"The person just now, a person from the shop yesterday?"

"Ahh. I got him to give a message to the musician from yesterday... it seems that she's free before her night's performance tomorrow. It seems I can talk to her"

"So she was a **[Demon]** after all?"

"I didn't ask to that extent though.... I told her that I wanted to hear the story concerning the silver bracelet and she accepted. At the very least, We might be able to hear about a similar custom."

Latina thinks a little bit about those words

"Latina.... there's a lot of things Latina doesn't know. Latina doesn't know

anything about the <code>[Demon Race]</code> as well.... Hopefully Latina would be able to understand by the time Latina became an adult"

Saying something like that.

"I'm also just full of things I don't know. Which is why Latina. Wouldn't it be good if we find out together"

"Is it the same as studying?"

"It might be"

They exchange a smile.

(...For now I have to know more about how the world works, at least more than Latina..... I can't be careless either...) (TL: (.....まだ、ラティナよりは、物事を知っていないといけねぇよなぁ......俺も、うかうかしてらんねぇ......))

Dale tells himself that, sweating inside his heart. Holding the fear, that although she's clever, she seems to be ahead of him.

As her [Parent], there's no way he can let her down her. At least, not for a little while longer.

(Kenneth.... had this sort of feeling too huh....)

It was at this moment that he realised the feelings of his [Brother-like figure] who had been working hard, day in day out in order to research and develop new recipes.

Dinner too, was eaten on the first floor, and they take an early rest.

The sound of rain, came to an end at some point.

It was cloudy the next day.

When he was preparing to go out in order to shop for consumables, he met with Latina's glittering, sparkling eyes. Eyes brimming with expectations.

"Dale, Dale! Um, you know (anone). Latina wants a fish"

"....Raw fish is no good you know?"

"Dried fish! Kroix doesn't have many but, they say that there's a lot of dried fish! Kenneth taught me how to deal with it!"

How like her, he thinks.

However normally, a girl her age, wouldn't they be more into souvenirs or general goods?

He ponders that.

(Well, it's fine. Latina looks happy anyway)

In front of Latina's energetic figure, who was walking as if she was skipping around, it was a trivial matter.

Completing their shopping and lunch, and after they had placed the things they bought back into their room, it was close to the meeting time.

The two of them once again arrived at [Silent Seagull]. It was past lunchtime, and the sight of customers were decreasing. In a corner of those customer seats, sat the musician from the day before.

She didn't have the showy brilliance but, gave the impression of a cool-looking woman.

Right now she was wearing an extremely common shirt and long skirt. On her head was a <u>beret shaped hat</u>, and thus unable to determine whether she has horns or not.

If it was just Dale by himself then she might have been cautious but, over here was also Latina. The sight of the lovely young girl who still had traces of her immaturity, hiding half of her body behind Dale as if she was slightly nervous was pleasant to the eye.

She also looks at Latina, and smiles gently.

The two of them sit down in the seats guided to in front of them.

"Thank you very much for making time for us. My name is Dale Reki"

"Not at all. You have something you wish to ask me?"

"Yes. It's about that accessory that you are wearing even now, about that bracelet...."

Dale turns his gaze to the silver bracelet that, even now, was worn on her upper arm.

She casually smiles as she nodded.

"... I don't thinks that it's such a precious thing though?"

"My acquaintance also has something very similar to that so, I would like to ask if it's something with some history behind it or...."

"Um, excuse me (anone)"

Interrupting Dale's words, Latina raised her voice.

"Latina, Latina's [Horns] are broken. A Demon"

"....uh, Latina...."

"....My"

At Latina's words, Dale and the woman both looked at her with a surprised face. She pushes away her hair, revealing the stump from the broken off horn.

"But, you know. Latina is a child so, there's a lot of things Latina doesn't know. Please teach me"

She had guessed that Dale was being mindful of her, and was trying to hide that fact.

Which is precisely why she said it herself.

Dale knows, that this fact will bring about harm and ill-will to Latina. However now that it's come to this, to try and hide it is unnatural. He prepares himself for the worst.

"Even though she's so young, such a thing...?"

"....I don't know all the details either. This girl came into my protection at the place where she had been separated by death with her parent. She was younger than this back then... and the only thing she had, was a bracelet that was similar to yours"

"This is..."

She mutters quietly, looks up and took off her hat.

In a different shape to Latina's, she had horns extending across, vertically growing from the left and right sides of her head.

She was of the Demon Race as expected.

She does this, and told them this to start with.

"This bracelet is, a present fathers would give their children back in my hometown.... it's something to represent that person's roots"

She called herself Glaros.

She wasn't like Latina, chased away and had to leave the Demon race settlements; it was that after she had traveled to the Human race's land, she had married her husband from the Human race then settled down in this land.

"I want to ask you first of all.... to what degree do you two know about the Demon race?"

"I think it's good to say that we know almost nothing. Since this girl was too young, and seems to have left her home town having not been taught anything"

"That's how it seems.... even the Demon race, during their early childhood is not much different to the human race when it comes to their degree of growth. Her immaturity shows through from her appearance. Such a young child having their horn broken.... I've never heard of such a thing"

Glaros' expression turns into a heartbreaking one.

It seems that even from what she can see, Latina's situation was quite an abnormal one.

"My hometown is much farther south-west from this land. The country that the <code>[First Demon Lord]</code> governs, <code>[Vasirio]</code>. In a corner of that country, the biggest sphere of influence for the Demon race. The Demon Race have made their independent settlements all over the world apart from Vasirio as well but, one that can be called a country, one that holds an unshakeable government, and rules as such, is only <code>[Vasirio]</code>."

"Is the <code>[Demon Lord]</code> as expected, the king of the Demon race?

"Not at all. The only one that is similar to what the Human races call [King] is the [First Demon Lord]. The [Demon Lords] are in no way managing the country in any way."

Glaros answered as such.

"The custom in Vasirio is that the children are to be raised by their mother's side. We don't have the practise like Humans where men and women marry and live together"

To Dale, that was something he had heard for the first time. Looking over at Latina, who was next to him, she made a surprised face as if she suddenly had a thought come to mind.

"However, the Demon race is a race that is hardly blessed with children. Even to fathers, children are a welcome existence. Which is why, the father will give the child birthed a bracelet with their own name carved inside. Putting into it

meanings such as blessing that child's life."

Glaros smoothly removes her own bracelet then shows the inside to them. Symbols similar to patterns, ones that Dale has never seen before were carved inside.

"This is the characters of the Demon race. ....It's quite different from the characters of the Human race right? This is what is carved here. Thy name is Coridaross, Thy presents this to thy loved child Glaros. Thy wishes that thy dear child be much blessed. Coridaross is my father's name. And my name is Glaros. And then the words of blessing are carved"

Glaros traces the characters with the tip of her finger.

Latina was staring at the inside of the bracelet with intense concentration.

(Author's note: This week, including this one, is the second update.

I can't really write much. The pace has somewhat slackened but, please take care of me) (TL: I'm going to be needing an editor, if you're interested in editing UchiMusume please edit any one of the chapters, and send it to me in one way of another at konobutatrans@gmail.com

Also if you'll like to just edit any of my chapters and send them to me, i'll be happy to replace it with your edited versions if I like them(i'll properly credit chu:3))

# **Chapter 36 – Looking at the Silver Bracelet**

Actually spent some time editing this :v yay?

#### Young Lady, Looking at the Silver Bracelet

Seeing how Latina was, Dale asks the people inside the store and borrowed a pen and paper.

Latina, who was handed that, starts copying the characters inside that silver bracelet with a serious face.

"The words written inside the bracelet, are they all the same?"

"Let's see... the words of blessing might be different depending on the region. However, there shouldn't be too much of a difference."

"Is that so"

Kokun. And nods, she compares the words she had copied down with the bracelet.

Before long, Latina ponders for a little while as she started to compose some characters in a corner of the paper.

"Latina.... this is?"

"The words written in Latina's bracelet... felt something like this. Maybe it's Rag's name...."

"May I have a look?"

Latina hands the piece of paper to Glaros. She briefly looks and ponders over what Latina had written but, then wrote down characters next to it.

"Was it not.... something like this? [Smaragdi] — a word that means a jade"

"Smaragdi... Rag's name?"

Latina tilts her head in confusion at the word that she isn't used to but, Glaros nodded as if saying "Most likely".

"It's possible for the Demon race to tell their young children to call them a shortened name. It might be that your father, only taught you the abbreviated version since you were so young"

"Latina should be, born in the country of the [First Demon Lord].... Vasirio right"

"I don't think that's likely.... There are also large settlements next to the [Third Demon Lord's] and [Sixth Demon Lord's] territories but... there isn't this sort of custom. Although this is also only what I've heard from my mother"

"[Third Demon Lord]? [Sixth Demon Lord]?"

Given that Latina was tilting her head, Dale provided her with some additional information.

"The <code>[Third Demon Lord]</code> has another name, <code>[Demon Lord of the Sea]</code>. It seems that he is establishing a coexistence relationship with the <code>[Fish Scale Race]</code> at the Eastern Borders. The <code>[Sixth Demon Lord]</code> is the <code>[Demon Lord of the Giants]</code>. They are a faction that even within the Demon race, have larger physiques and.... I hear that he treats his tribe as his followers and wanders all over, without a place to settle down"

"Fueee..."

"Indeed. Apart from that, are just the really tiny settlements which are dotted everywhere and such. Going to that extent, even I of the Demon race, don't know too much"

It was when Glaros had said that.

"But... does the [First Demon Lord] exists?"

Suddenly, Latina asked that question to the two of them.

"Eh?"

"Well..."

Dale was taken back and Glaros made a surprised face.

"Eh?... If it's the [First Demon Lord's] Country then... he exists right?"

"Is that so? Wasn't the <code>[First Demon Lord]</code> killed by the <code>[Second Demon Lord]</code>?"

Latina says, then tilted her head looking curious.

Dale looks to Glaros, and she nodded, still surprised.

"You sure know your stuff......even though you're so small"

She continues her words, sighing as if she was admiring her.

"It was an incident before I had left my home town. That the First Demon Lord was murdered by the Second Demon Lord. ..... At that time, most of Vasirio was panicking as well, and it became the excuse I used to leave my home town.

It's a story from a some time ago already. After that, whilst still having an absent [First Demon Lord], the government structure should have been maintained due to the Demons who were left behind."

"So what you're saying is.... right now Vasirio has no [Demon Lord]?"

"Yes. Since [Demon Lords] don't have an inheritance system like that of human kings..."

Hearing Glaros' words, Latina muttered. The words were spoken too fast for Dale to catch but, Glaros makes a large nod.

"That's right.... similar to how, according to the other [Races], the presences called [Hero] who are [One who is loved by god and overrules] appear, Us of the [Demon Race] have [One who is chosen by god and protected] — the

**[Demon Lord]** appear"

"Then the new [First Demon Lord] is..."

"If the gods lay down their judgement, that the time has come for that then, we(Demon Race) will probably be crowned with a new [King]"

Dale took a deep breathe after listening to the story up to there.

"We(Human Race) seriously don't know anything about the [Demon Race]... just the [Demon Lord] is a terrifying symbol for us"

Seeing how Dale was reacting, Glaros directs him a smile.

"That might be something that just can't be helped. Vasirio is a country that doesn't interact with other countries. Contrary to that, [Demon Lords of Calamity] are also proactively related to this"

"[Demon Lords of Calamity]?"

"You don't hear about them much here... That's what the Demon Race, and even those amongst the <code>[Demon Lords]</code>, call the Demon Lords who only convey harm and ill will to others."

"Like the Demon Lord of War... the [Seventh Demon Lord]?"

"Yes. This includes... The Dark Lord, the one who loves death and slaughter, the <code>[Second Demon Lord]</code>, the Devil of Disease, the one who carries with him plagues, the <code>[Fourth Demon Lord]</code> and such are existences to be feared, even to us of the demon race after all"

Time passes before they realises, the business hours for the night of [Silent Seagull] was approaching them.

Glaros surveys the surroundings as if she had noticed that.

"Well... it's already time. I apologize but I should start preparing for work soon as well"

"Not at all. It should be us who are thanking you. I was able to learn about a lot more than I had thought"

Dale gets up from his seat, says his thanks and gestured to Latina.

She bows slightly, and Glaros smiled. Using her hands to gently pat the top of Latina's head.

Latina stared at Glaros motionlessly.

```
"Come on, let's go Latina"
"Un"
```

As she was chasing after Dale who had turned to go towards the door of [Silent Seagull], Latina suddenly stopped in her tracks. Turning around, she rushed back to Glaros. And then asked a question.

```
"Anone... anone... your husband... how is he?"
"......"
```

At Latina's question, Glaros was silenced for a little bit but, in the short amount of time that she had considered, she guessed what the young girl before her eyes wants to ask. Then telling her the truth with a quiet voice.

"....Compared to Humans, we live a lot longer right? I saw him off... until the very end"

```
"ן"
```

Latina gasped at Glaros' answer, but even so, she swallows down her feelings and looked as if that was the answer she had expected her to say. And then raised another question.

"...Did you have children?"

"It's unfortunate but.... Demons are a race who are rarely blessed with children.... and if that is a child with mixed blood from *another race* then... it becomes more and more difficult"

Glaros replies like so, and once more gently pat the young girl in front of her, who was living amongst the humans. For one of the Demon Race to live amongst the Humans, there comes with difficulties other than those of customs and birthplace, and Glaros knows this well.

```
"Anone... ne... were you happy.... having met your husband?"
"...Yes"
```

Glaros smiled. Because it was precisely the reason she was still living in this town today.

At this harbour town, where she had lived with and spent time together with her husband. Performing the song that he had loved.

```
"I am quite, content, yes"
```

```
"... Then, that's great"
```

When Latina shows her a smile as if she is trying to hold back from crying, Glaros gently brought her close into her arms.

If a child was blessed to me and my husband's side then, there may have been an opportunity where I could have embraced my child just like this as well.

Thinking like that whilst hugging her.

As they walk next to each other, Dale was glancing at Latina.

He had no clue what Latina had asked Glaros when she turned around back to her at the end.

However Latina, who was walking next to him was gripping his hand, tightly and full of strength. As if he was her lifeline. As if she fears that, should she let him go then, she would lose him.

Looking down, so that not even the long awaited scenery would come into view.

-Which is why he,

```
"Kyaa!?"
```

Having her field of vision suddenly turned around, Latina raised her voice like she was surprised. Making her big, grey eyes blink repeatedly.

```
"Dale?"
"Nn?"
```

Dale was lifting Latina into his arms. Even though when she was just a little bit younger than now, it felt like everyday was passing just like this, in this fashion, it really was quite some time ago.

```
"You've gotten heavier, naa..."
```

"Latina, is not a baby anymore? Can walk"

"You aren't a baby. But you know, it's alright for Latina to be pampered by me more. You're my adorable, cute and precious daughter after all"

Gently patting her head, pofu pofu, then continuing to walk just like that.

Latina becomes compliant immediately, and clung onto Dale with her arms around his neck. To her, this was indeed the position she was used to.

From just having her line of sight become higher, she could see that the view has become different.

Even when she looked down, the fact that the distance from the ground was further than usual, has made the scenery different.

```
"Dale..."

"Nn?"

Latina whispered into Dale's ear with a small voice filled with all her feelings.

"Thank you, always.... I love you"

—Like that.
```

From with the opening amongst the clouds, the very first star of the night was twinkling.

(Author's note: It's the 37th chapter... the word "Hero" has finally come out. As always the story is continuing at a slow pace.

I would be blessed if you would continue accompanying me from now on as well) (TL: I guess i still need an editor... don't really have any chapters translated tho: L hue...

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### **Chapter 37 – Beautiful Spring**

Mid-semester break starto! I'll try my best and definitely release at least one ryouriban! :v

#### Young Lady, Beautiful Spring

(Author's note: This one, is a person who loves flower viewing (Hanami))

It was early in the morning when they left Cuvare.

The clouds from yesterday remain, and due the the thin clouds, it feels darker than the time suggests.

"What a shame. I mean, this highway was a place where you can see the sea really well"

"Let's enjoy it on our way back"

The unobstructed scenery that could be seen from the highway, the grey skies and slowly, sinking sea, was divided by the horizon. It was a view which would definitely be gorgeous should it be a clearer day.

However Latina shakes her head, purupuru.

Expressing her thoughts on the setting and smiled brightly.

"After the sea, we'll be heading south again. It feels like we're taking a large detour, heading towards east."

"Why did we take a [detour]?"

"Heading there directly, we have to continue crossing are steep mountain slopes. There aren't any roads either and it's amazing if there are even animal trails. I wouldn't want to use that path even by myself"

"Is that so"

"My hometown is within the mountains so, you'll constantly feel like you're climbing up.... It's pretty far from the Royal Capital as well so, it's pretty run down..."

A reasonable amount of travelers coming and going could be seen down the highway as she walks, listening to Dale's explanation. However around noon, the moment the two of them separated off the path, heading towards the mountains, there were no longer any sights of people. The path too had become obviously rough.

The fact that they were heading towards a run down direction was incomparably easy to see.

"Latina, want to get on the horse?"

"Not yet, still ok"

Yet Latina continues walking happily.

As if pointing out that the seasons are welcoming Spring, small flowers were blooming on the side of the roads. Having discovered those, Latina was smiling delightfully.

It was then.

A light pink petal crosses into her sights, and Latina looked up.

"Uwahhh"

It's understandable that she would let out a voice without thinking. The path in front of them had become a path of trees on both sides, with light pink flowers blooming in all it's glory. Against the grey skies as the background, the small flowers tinged with a faint red were hiding the skies, appearing gorgeous.

"It's Spring... there's a village nearby. I wonder if someone plated these...."

Not even Dale's whispers could reach Latina currently.

Her gaze as well as her consciousness were at the moment, both stolen away by the gorgeous scenery of peak bloom.

Dale smiles wryly and stopped his feet.

"Latina, should we take a break"

"Un"

Calling out to her, Latina responds pleasantly as he had thought. After Dale ties up the reins nearby, he sits down under the row of trees. Latina does so as well.

She continues looking up as is. Her eyes sparkled as they chased after the dancing leaves, fluttering about.

Dale takes out a small wrap that he asked the inn prepare for them. With the sound of the paper wrapping opening, it seemed that Latina finally noticed what Dale was doing.

Inside there were sandwiches lined up next to each other.

They had just had food with fish ingredients, Cuvare's specialty and, it was a lunchbox he had them make, regretting that he had no idea when the next chance he would be able to eat fish dishes again.

"Which one do you want Latina?"

"Ummm.... Which one do you want?"

"Either one is fine for me"

Thinking for a little while, Latina took the sandwich with the smoked fish and vegetables. Pakun, she sinks her teeth into the corner.

Dale too, started to eat the one made with Oil pickled fish.

At the quiet spot where the two were having their meal, petals came fluttering down.

Chasing his eyes at Braoh who is eating the grass at his own pace, he appeared his thirst with the water from his canteen.

Latina had finally eaten about half of her sandwich when Dale has just finished his second one. She makes a panicked face as the contents of the sandwich get

pushed out, beron. Mo, mo, mo. She slowly pulls out a fish slice, holding it with her mouth, then taking it out putting it inside her mouth.

Her every action was truly adorable.

```
"It was delicious"

"I see"

"The flowers, are pretty"
```

After they finished their meal, they take a short break, enjoying the spring view.

Up until they stood back up and resumed their travels, Latina had her eyes constantly fixated upon the flowers in full bloom.

Walking next to her, Dale smiles, finding that a single leftover light pink petal is on Latina's platinum hair, as if it was reluctant to part.

He felt that it wouldn't be too bad to tell her after some time had passed.

A few days later, Latina stopped moving even for the grass fields on the side of the highway that had become fields of flowers.

While it's true that there are flower beds and parks in Kroix where you're able to see flowers bloom, you aren't able to see a spectacle like this where from one side you can see a variety of flower envelope you.

```
"It's alright. Wanna stop by?"

"Is it ok?"

"Be careful of snakes and stuff"

"I'll be alright"
```

Rushing into the field of flowers as she replies, the vivid flowers went all the way up to her waist.

Laughing happily, Latina who is having the time of her life, the feeling of being enclosed at all sides by flowers, the adorableness of that facial expression.

(Yup. There's no doubt about it)

It was an adorably magical sight, enough to bring upon such a comment from that doting parent.

In front of Latina's eyes a large butterfly flies past.

She follows that motionlessly with her eyes for a little while, far away off to the blue skies.

It seems Latina was enjoying the trip.

It might also be that this season, Spring, was a good time. The climate is calm, and the scenery too, feels like somewhat festive, a brilliant season.

If Latina is this happy then, it probably wouldn't be too bad to take her out somewhere after they return back to Kroix as well.

He wound up thinking that.

Slowly closing in on the mountain, when they could feel the road slant, the scenery changes it's feel once again.

They entered a deep forest.

However, you couldn't feel the gloom like that of Kriox' southern forest.

There are the presences of magic beasts and wild animals but, they aren't big enough of a threat to endanger people. This probably means that the inside of the forests are touched up on frequently.

"It's because there's a village of the [Beastman race] around here. Because of

that this area is pretty safe"

"Beastman?"

"Yea. They're pretty rare in Raband. Although it seems that there are quite a few in countries more to the west. Because they are a race which is friendly with the Human race, there's quite a few mixed bloods and there are also quite a few adventurers"

"Really.... Latina never noticed"

"It's 'cause there aren't that many in Kroix.... We passed by them sometimes in Cuvare didn't we?"

After he says so, Latina looked slightly awkward.

She was way too dazed by everything in the town and was likely to have had looked over something like this. You could say that she has the qualities to easily become lost.

The leaves of all the trees were bright green as if they were fresh and new.

Inside that forest, Dale went astray from the highway, onto a thin road little better than an animals trail.

The leaves of the thicket grew rampant right at Latina's face so, he put her onto the horse. When Latina could finally look around her surroundings casually, she started to shift her gaze everywhere.

"Dale, where are we going?"

"Today we'll be staying at the Beastman's village. There aren't any inns but, I have an acquaintance so we'll stay there"

"An acquaintance of yours? A friend?"

"Not a friend, he's sort of a relative... that guy's mother is my dad's second cousin"

"Hmmm?"

It seems it wasn't a relationship that Latina could understand easily. Koten. She tilts her head.

"It's like, my family's family"

"Hmmm"

She gives a reply but, it seems she probably didn't really get it. She was making that sort of a face.

Evening was greeting them by the time the forest suddenly cleared out.

There was a small village there. It couldn't be compared with any of the towns they had come across until now. It's as if just by turning around and taking a look, everything about the village comes into view.

Little houses were lined up in a huddle, with stone walls and ceilings left as is, in it's wooden colour.

"Fuaaa"

"Let's go in before it gets dark"

Dale heads towards the entrance of the village as if he was relieved. They didn't even have walls built like the towns up to now. It looked such that all the trees around the village was more or less their fence, fencing in their surroundings.

Looking at the appearance of the villager who was near the entrance, Latina sighed again as if she was surprised.

"Fuaa! A [Beastman]?"

"That's right. They're a bit characteristic so, I guess it's surprising the first time"

Dale smiles at Latina.

It seems that he had overheard their conversation. That person from the Beastman tribe headed towards them with a face covered with fur.

"How rare. Guests?"

"Yea. We've come to Byunte's place but, is it alright for us to enter?"

"Byunte's place huh"

At the name that Dale proposed, he — because of the clothes he was wearing, he appears to be an elderly man — was nodding many times. It seems he's agreeing.

"At this time, he would probably be home. Do you need me to take you there?"

"No, I'm alright. Thanks"

Even while Dale was having that conversation, Latina was observing the other fixedly. Even that gaze which normally would probably have been something rude, when it comes to her, only formed a honest curiosity with no questionable motives whatsoever. It was a good quality which made the other difficult to hold a bad impression.

Appearance-wise the [Beastman race] are unique.

Their physique itself has little difference with the other races. However, everywhere on that face and body is covered with fur. The colour of the fur differs by the individual, brown, black *etc*.

Even their appearance had a close resemblance to that of animals. The animal they resemble the most if he had to say was, probably dogs. They look as if they were crossed with that and humans.

The Beastman Race was just a furrier Human Race, with triangular ears that point to the sky and a tail.

"...Dale, is family with the [Beastman]?"

Dale points to one of the houses in the village and answered the curious looking Latina.

"Look, that's Byunte's house.... It's because that guy is, a [Mix] of the human race and the beastman race"

"[Mix]?"

"Yea. Because the Human race and the Beastman race have similar features, their blood can mix. Even their appearances, it's possible for them to have the appearance of the Human race as well as have the unique characteristics of the Beastman race, inheriting the animal ears and tail"

(Author's note: A flower field and a small girl. I just had to create that sort of situation. I had felt that sort of divine order but... it's totally just my interests.

I'll probably be led astray by this sort of feeling in the future as well)

(TL: My mid sem break is here! I'll try to finish what I've translated of ryouriban and do as many translations as I can! Lol break... still have 3 assignments to do regardless ... ha... ha...)

# Chapter 38 – Having her interest stolen by animal ears

Wow, this hasn't been updated in so long... this semester is almost over, exams end on the 22nd~:3

And to be honest the reason I was working on this chapter was just to give this <u>link</u> a little boost, just a few games I made in java for whatever reason. Have a laugh

Ryouriban is around 30% done for the current chapter; Saw someone want more of the brothel thing so, that's also around 40% done. Net chapter of this will be started whenever.

### Young Lady, Having her interest stolen by animal ears

The seven [Races] are, in a broader sense of the meaning, the same kind of existence, stemming from the fact that they are able to leave behind descendants with each other.

Races who are very different in their qualities do not mix their blood, and a child of either the father or mother's race will be born.

This however, doesn't mean that their genes won't be passed on.

For example between <code>[A Scaled Fish Race's Mother]</code> and <code>[A Human Race's Father]</code>, a child of either the <code>[Scaled Fish Race]</code> or <code>[Human Race]</code> would be born. Furthermore, it appears that there is a higher chance that the race the child will be born into, to be of the mother's race.

However, apart from the rare exceptions such as <code>[A scaled fish race who takes after their father]</code> and, <code>[A human who takes after their mother]</code>, the parent's qualities will mix together.

[Races] that have similar [Qualities], can also birth existence which are called [Mixes]. In the case of [Humans] and [Beastman], both of their race's qualities mix, making it such that [They look human up close, and are left with the traits belonging to those of beastman, such as animal ears and tails]. Someone who has both traits from both races like this, is called a [Mix].

It seems that even when she was listening to that, Latina couldn't help being curious about those animal ears moving about, with a pico pico.

Rather than saying that they were connected by blood, he was more like a distant relative. He looked nothing like Dale. If a connection had to be made then it would be the black hair that lingered at the tips of those brown ears and tail. A vague connection like the colour of his fur.

"Like I said, there's someone whose just like me"

He said with a wide grin.

"In any case, Josef.... Have you gotten fatter again?"

The one who was laughing, completely unperturbed even at Dale's words, was named Josef Byunt, a middle aged man [Mix – between a Human and a Beastman]. He's plump, with plenty of meat around his arms and stomach. You would think that he was bulking, from what could be seen, as his originally narrow eyes get even narrower.

From his shortly trimmed black-haired head, triangular ears sprung up.

"It's happy fat. It can't be helped alright. Look, isn't she cute"

Josef laughs, not losing one bit to [Dale – the doting parent]. Within those arms of his, a young beastman child was being held. This child, looking like a black, fluffy hair ball, was the long awaited firstborn of the Byunt family.

"Even if you say that.... For a human like me, differentiating between beastman is a little...."

From behind Dale's mutterings, Latina extends out her hand, and gently pats the sleeping baby.

"She's a cute little girl, isn't she"

"Right? Right?!"

"Her eyes look like her mothers but, her face is just like Josef-san's, right?"

```
"Right?! Right?"
```

Taking a peek at Josef who looks completely satisfied, Dale makes a complex expression.

```
"Uhhh.... Latina?"

"Hn?"

"...Can you tell the difference between Beastman?"

"Hn?"
```

At Dale's question, Latina tilts her head with a confused look.

For a human like Dale, even if he could differentiate between the colour of the fur and physique of the Beastman; to tell whether they were male or female just by looking at their faces was impossible.

```
"I mean, everyone's different you know?"

"So that how it is.... You can tell huh...."
```

Dale found himself amazed at the Demon Race at an unexpected aspect.

```
"Your wife is such a beautiful person"

"Right"
```

The one Latina just talked about, Josef's wife, is a pure Beastman.

Her glamourous white coat is plain to the eye and, having the colour of her limbs tinged with a slight bluish-gray sure is rare, thinks Dale. But that was all.

"But Maaya-chan, rather than a beauty, it feels more like she'll become a cutie"

Latina says with a wide smile on her face but, truth be told, Dale couldn't tell the difference whatsoever. It was to the point that, with her black coat, he had vaguely thought, 'Maybe it's a boy...'. "Wow, that's amazing...."

"A little lady like that would have a nice coat of fur too"

Josef says as he roughly pats Latina's head.

(So that's how they praise others. That's just like the Beastman...) Communicating with foreign cultures is difficult.

The home that Josef was living in with his family, was at the very north of the village.

It had a simple arrangement, a two part house with only a living-dining room and a living room. It's a fairly normal house within this village.

Inside the building, overflowing with the warmth of trees, a wooden plank acting as a table, claims itself within the living room with objects placed around it everywhere, making it a mess.

However, it didn't give off an uncomfortable feeling, probably because that was also a part of everyday life.

"For you to be passing by here means, that you're on your way going back to the [Village] right?"

"Yea"

Dale brings out his souvenirs, the sake bottle that he brought here from Kroix and the dried fish that he bought at Cuvare, handing it over to Josef's wife, Wuute, as he said.

"How's grandma?"

"Well I mean, I didn't hear anything about her being dead... from what I gather from the last letter, it seemed she still couldn't hand over the head of the family to my old man and was clattering with laughter."

```
"That's [just like her]"
"Right?"
```

It didn't look like Latina was very interested at the two men's conversation.

She takes glances at the figure of the sleepy Maaya, as well as looking over to Wuute, who was working in the kitchen.

It seems she wasn't sticking her hand into their matters because they weren't very close but, she also seemed absorbed by it all, whether it was the life style of the Beastman or the countryside.

She was itching to do something.

Having noticed Latina acting like that, Wuute invites her over with a faint smile and she rushes over as if she had been waiting for this.

"Fuahhh"

Her eyes widen at the sight of Wuute skillfully preparing the wild plants.

"This, how do you eat this?"

"This is something that's quite common around these parts but, it might be a bit new to you"

"There isn't any mountains around Kroix, that's why"

"Ahh, that's right"

Latina copies how Wuute was working by the act of watching and learning.

At the sight of Latina looking as if she was already used to this, Wuute was amazed. Besides the fact that Latina looks younger than she really is, compared with the kids of her generation she was actually able to do some housework.

Once she started helping out, Latina toddles behind Wuute, looking for things to do as if it was painful to stand still.

There are quite a lot of women who don't like their territory, their kitchen,

being handled by others but, the young Latina had the advantage in that area.

It's pleasant seeing the sight of a young girl like her, working with a smile on her face.

When the wooden plates and the stew boiled with meat and herbs was placed on the table, it was around when Dale and Josef were changing their conversation topic to the recent rumours of the Royal Capital. This was accompanied with bread that had a colour not seen in Kroix.

As a response to the smell of that, Maaya, who had been sound asleep within Yoseff's arms twitched her nose. Her eyes, the same green as her mother Wuute's, open up with a snap.

After a brief absentmindedness, it looked as if she was shocked at the presence of strangers.

"|"

She hugs onto Josef as if worried.

Yup, Josef nods.

"How is she. Cute right"

"What are you saying. Just look at my daughter for the meaning of cute"

Dale says stubbornly, pointing at Latina who was carrying over a bowl of wild plants salad.

"Hn?"

Suddenly being brought up, Latina looked puzzled.

"Nice to meet you, Maaya-chan. I'm Latina."

"Uuu? Aatia?

"Hello"

Maaya was slightly nervous when such a conversation was brought up to her but, she became completely familiar with Latina shortly afterwards.

And then once again, Latina was in a trance looking at the small Maaya.

Even now, she was bravely helping out Maaya, eating her stew with shaky hands, and wiping around her sticky mouth.

Up till now in Kroix, to Latina who had been [very helpful] for many things, being an [Older sister] seems to be a grave matter.

```
"So cute"

(My daughter – Latina)

"So cute"

(My daughter – Maaya)
```

At the affectionate sight of the two young girls, the two men nod towards one another, grunting in sounds of agreement. Wuute acts as if she saw nothing and continued eating her meal.

There was no need for a retort.

Since everyone is happy, nothing more needs to be said.

```
"Wuute-san. This stew is delicious. What's in it?"
```

"A [boar]. There are quite a few around here"

"Heee...."

Latina lifts a spoon towards her mouth, and chews on a large chunk of meat.

This was a dish with emphasis on the meat as the main ingredient. The herbs at best, was there to bring out the flavour.

Latina ate happily but among the people present, she was the one who ate the least. There was also Maaya who was still unable to form words but, she enthusiastically ate around the same amount of stew as Latina.

Wuute and Josef, had eaten more than Latina and Dale's portions combined. The Beastman race as a whole, were big eaters. "You guys, are you leaving tomorrow?"

"That's the plan but, is something going on?"

"Tomorrow the men of the village are going out to hunt. If it goes well you can take some of the leftover preserved meat with you. Let's leave that for later"

"Is it going to be that big of a hunt?"

Josef answers Dale's inquiry as if it was nothing special.

"It's because the divination of the Indigo God (Banafsaji)'s Miko-san has been released"

#### (Author's note)

The visual of a <code>[Daughter]</code> of a middle aged father with animal ears just popped into my head....I'm not thinking that it's pointless.... Since it did pop into my head after all....

I have disappointing thoughts like this but, I would be happy if you continued to stay with me from here on out.

# Chapter 39 – Informing the youth of her shackles

So sometimes I go onto NU, and just wish to see someone request to pickup a novel im working on, and it makes me happy... and i was wondering why. and then im like, oh yea. people like my novel enough to want to read more more I really need to study omg...

### Young Lady, Informing the youth of her shackles

The moment she heard those words, Latina's body jumped in shock.

The spoon falls, making a loud clank. It was rare that she was being this ill-mannered.

```
"....? Latina?"
"...."
```

She had stopped moving completely as she looked straight down.

She didn't even answer Dale's inquiry. He was unable to pinpoint to source of her sudden change in behaviour.

```
"What's wrong?"
"....It's nothing. I'm alright"
```

At the repeated question, Latina patches up her expression and picked up her spoon again. She quietly resumes eating just like that.

Until the end of that meal, Latina did not say another word

Borrowing a corner of the living room, and even when she was preparing to sleep, Latina was quiet. It couldn't be described as a comfortable bed but, having a place to rest without worrying about the weather or predators is already quite good after camping outside.

Latina wrapped herself inside her blanket, and lean her head on Dale's back.

Pressing her forehead against it.

```
"Are you alright Latina?"
```

```
"...Latina, is alright"
```

Dale sighs towards the words she had already said before.

This girl really has a lot of patience, she doesn't even try to voice her complaints.

Twisting his body around to face Latina, he hugs her, blanket and all. Softly patting against her back as if soothing her as he lies down across from her.

```
"Dale?"
```

Dale pulls up his own blanket as he smiles. He could feel that she was relieved just by being by his side. Dale has accepted this repeatedly.

If that was case, it would be good if he could become an existence that could support her when she was anxious.

Maybe that thought of his was transmitted to her as Latina closed her eyes within Dale's arms and muttered.

```
"Dale...will you stay with Latina?"
```

"Yes"

"If that's the case then. ....Latina, is really alright"

While he was watching as she starts to fall asleep, light breathing exhaling out, Dale was thinking of the reasons as to why Latina was scared.

Her tightly grabbing onto his shirt as she slept was something she used to do quite often when they had first met. It's probably because something worrying has showed up.

Recently Latina has been spoiled, and even if she asked to sleep next to him, she wouldn't hug onto him like this, looking so anxious.

```
"Banafsaji...."
```

The reason Latina got all strange was the instant his god's name was

mentioned.

(Then.... Could it be that.... The reason why Latina was chased out of her hometown....)

In Kroix there wasn't a shrine for [Banafsaji].

That is because the fact that shrines were originally establishments managed by those with <code>[Divine Protection]</code>. The <code>[Divine Protection]</code> of <code>[Banafsaji]</code> rarely appear among the <code>[Human Race]</code>. In a Human town such as Kroix, there is no reason for a shrine like that to exist there. Faith among human was thin as well. There were few opportunities to convey their blessings, and thus it inevitably tends to have a lesser impression compared with the other gods.

However, it wasn't like that for the [Other races].

The <code>[Divine Protection]</code> of <code>[Banafsaji]</code> is the unique ability to be able to take a peek at the future. The strength of the divine protection is determined by the difference of <code>[what can be seen]</code>.

Nevertheless, those who are capable of investigating the [Weather] or [Disasters] beforehand are, you wouldn't be able to think about how important it is as a method to protect themselves for the [Other races] who are originally few in number.

The words coming from the priests of [Banafsaji] are critical.

And probably much more so than the other <code>Gods</code> for <code>those</code> other races.

Even if he knew that, it wasn't like he could say anything.

"...A person's future, you know, can only be vaguely predicted, even for high-ranking priests."

He gently strokes her back over and over again.

"Based on how the explanations are done, they should be able to interpret it as many times as they want.... I wonder why, those people in your hometown, decided your fate based on such a vague thing...."

Within Dale's mutterings, contained a touch of pain and loneliness but, in the stillness during the dead of the night, there was no one to hear him.

"Take care"

"Wait for the good news"

Setting out early in the morning, mist still in the air, next to Dale who Josef was seeing off, was Latina, tightly grasping onto Dale.

It was still much earlier than when she would normally wake up but, when Dale had just woken up, Latina had also jumped up in panic, and woke up as well.

Dale smiled bitterly but, without saying anything, he merely gently pat her.

Seeing the wheat porridge that Wuute had prepared for breakfast, Latina's eyes would normally sparkle at the cuisine that she normally wouldn't see at Kroix. Despite that, she went through her meal quietly and dull.

As if she is trying to hide from *something*. Quietly holding her breath as if she was trying not to be found, as if she was trying to let something scary pass by.

"Atiaa? Aichi?"

What changed the mood, was the innocent smile of the young girl.

Holding out the spoon towards Latina, with a wide smile on her face. Sadly, half the contents of the spoon, due to her shaky movements, ended up spilling over and falling but, it didn't seem like Maaya cared.

"...Maaya-chan. Un, it's yummy"

When Latina once again smiled as if she was hiding something, Maaya looked confused. Which then changed to sadness.

```
"Atiaa, ouchie, ouchie?"
"!?"
```

The same moment Latina made a surprised looking face, Maaya crunched up her face and started crying.

```
"Ouchie? Fuee, ee, ee..."

"Maaya-chan?"

"Uweeeeeaaaaaa!"
```

Latina's fright, changed over to the sudden outburst of Maaya. The sight of Latina all shaken up was something new for Dale.

```
"Eh? Maaya-chan.... What's wrong?"
```

"It's because little kids are very sensitive to the emotions of those around them, you see"

Wuute carries up Maaya in a familiar manner and started to comfort the wailings of her child. Befuddled, Latina smiled slightly awkwardly.

"Latina-chan too, it's better to let it all out when you need to. Whether it's through the painful, tough, or scary moments, ok? After all, it's fine for children to rely on adults for that sort of thing"

Latina who had been in a daze, shakes with different emotions.

Her large eyes well up, after a short moment, large teardrops overflow as if she couldn't hold it back anymore.

```
"! Uwahhh, ahh....."
```

Dale silently stands next to her, and as he strokes her head several times like he normally does, Latina starts sobbing loudly as she hugs him.

For a short while, the crying voices of the two girls were all that resounded.

Once Maaya stopped crying, she immediately returned back to normal and finished her breakfast, which had ended up cold, without a care.

As expected, it seems it wasn't as easy for Latina, who was now sipping on the herbal tea that Wuute had poured for her with a sniffling face.

"....I'm sorry. Thank you very much."

"It's fine. Although I'm not quite sure what Latina-chan is scared of, isn't it better to feel refreshed after having a good cry about it for once? You're still so young. You don't have to push yourself too much"

Dale has a hard time reading the expressions of the Beastman but, judging from the tone of her voice, he was sure Wuute was smiling.

```
"Wuute-san.....I'm sorry...."
```

"You have nothing to apologize for. It's a child's job to cause trouble after all"

She says towards Latina as well.

Although Dale couldn't tell the appearances of the Beastman, he thought from the bottom of his heart that, Josef had really married a nice person.....

```
"Dale...."

"Hn?"

"Latina, you know, is scared"

"....I see"
```

The few short words that she leaks out, Dale merely quietly accepts.

"Latina.... Is a *bad girl* they say, so that's why, they say Latina can't return back to where Latina was born... That's what they prophesied about Latina...."

```
"Latina...."
```

"Latina's family, you know, said that was wrong. That Latina, wasn't bad. ....But you know, you know. It's because of Latina that Rag had died. It's because he was together with Latina.... *sniffle*"

With her eyes, moist once again, she faces Dale, and yet Latina continued speaking.

"It's just as [Prophesied]. Latina is surely, a bad girl."

"....Latina, do you remember the contents of the [Prophecy]?"

At Dale's question, she thought for a while before shaking lightly.

"I don't know... everyone said a lot of things about me.... So it was really scary...."

"I see. ....Your family said that Latina wasn't [bad] right?"

"Un"

Dale smiles and puts his forehead against Latina's. Reflected in Latina's surprised grey pupils was him, with an expression full of love that he didn't even notice.

"[The words of god] are troubling for people. Especially those high-ranking [Prophecies] that attempt to read a person's fate. Which is why Latina's family, saying that [Latina isn't a bad girl] are probably the ones who are right"

"Fh...?"

"At the very least, your family wasn't taken by the words of the [Prophecy]. The [words] weren't completely stating that Latina is bad as a fact."

Latina seemed genuinely astonished at Dale's words. Such a possibility had never come into her mind until now.

"Dale...."

"I think that most likely, I know more about [Divine Protections] than you....
Latina, you don't have a [Divine Protection] right?"

"Un"

"...I have a [Divine Protection]. Although it's not one of Banafsaji's.

....However I know very well what kind of thing a [Divine Protection] is."

Staring at Dale, Latina smiles shyly.

"Dale is like a god... Dale, always comes to help me. Giving me so many *things* that I want....If the one who let me meet Dale was <code>God</code> then, I guess, Latina has nothing to be afraid of....."

— Even though he has a [Divine Protection], even though he doesn't have much faith, he would sometimes pray.

So that this girl can be happy, so that she can be healthy.

If it was the guidance of [God] who let him meet this girl then he would pray.

(Author's note)

Strange... at the Beastman's village, even though all I wanted to write should have been the sight of the [Daughter's] fluffiness..... I wonder why the mood became so serious....

The next chapter will only be fluffiness. I promise.

# **Chapter 40 – Enjoying the Fluffiness**

Been procrastinating, good for you and good for me<sup>~</sup> the day the exams come gets closer and closer haha;-; Would've been out earlier but got distracted by ToS and BnS Edit: lol finally realised what achobu was.

### Young Girl, Enjoying the Fluffiness

At the village's center plaza, holding hands with Maaya, Latina opens her mouth in a daze.

```
"Boaaaa"

"That boar is so big...."

What Maaya was pointing at was the result of today's hunt.

"Meateee"

"Maaya-chan, do you like meat?"

"Likeyyy"
```

The sight of the two girls happily talking to each other like that could heal the soul.

Due to that, Dale was gazing at them for a little while but, Dale came to his senses with a 'Ha!'.

```
"....Latina"

"Hn?"

"That's because that's a magic beast. If you line it up next to a [Normal boar], then the normal boar would look just like a baby, you know"

"Really?"
```

From what it looks like, she got a real scare from that.

It's really good that Latina was able to have her mistake corrected before she experienced it herself.

As if a beast with a body incomparable to even houses, could be a [Normal] boar.

And two were lined up there.

It seems that the hunt was a big success indeed.

The <code>[Divine Protection]</code> that the <code>[Banafsaji]</code> Miko of this town has, was the foresight of the <code>[dangers]</code> within a — limited area — of the town's surroundings.

This time, it was due to that, that she was able to sense the existence of the Magic Beast.

It appears that this type of boar-like magic beasts are often seen around the village, and thus became a meat that the villagers ate frequently.

However, that doesn't mean it wasn't dangerous.

This is a major reason for the existence of the Vanafusegi's Miko, as she is able to snip the danger in advance.

"Hey.... the disassembling is gross you know?"

"I thought that this might also be a learning experience"

"...Wouldn't disassembling be better done at a butcher.... Besides, I don't think you'll be able to make much of this since they are, as expected, way too big."

"Hmmm... that's true"

The knife that a man of the beastman was carrying around, couldn't even be called a knife anymore. It seemed more like a greatsword that you would hold with both hands.

Latina didn't think she would be able to wield that even after she grew up, not even if she tried her best. It wasn't a reasonable size at all.

```
"Atiaa. Pwayy"
```

It seems that for Maaya, this was a scene she saw often and was nothing interesting. She pulls on Latina's hand with a tug or two. Once Latina turned her gaze, she walked out as if she was satisfied.

```
"Dale"

"Ahh. Be careful. Don't leave the village"

"Un"
```

As she gets pulled off by Maaya, Latina obtained permission from Dale.

The two of them left for a stroll through the village.

```
"You're so fluffy, Maaya-chan"

"Kufyufyu"
```

Latina, who was strolling with Maaya, soon got sick of it and was now enjoying her soft fur. Maaya didn't hate it either, twisting her body around, squealing happily. It was as if she was being tickled.

```
"Atiaa, fwuffi?"

"So fluffy~"
```

Talking about nothing special and laughing together.

Noticing that the fur below Maaya's head is especially soft, she strokes there and, Maaya laughs, purring as if she was feeling good.

Maaya being so young, her coat of fur was soft and downy. Furthermore it was as if her father's doting mannerisms could be seen from his efforts full of love. Her fluffiness is at its top condition.

It seems that Maaya is also comfortable having Latina stroke her.

After overcoming her ticklishness, she starts looking somewhat drowsy. Halfway through, her nods betrays her and she takes a stance as if wanting to be stroked more.

```
"Atiia. Pat paaat!"
"Here?"
"More~"
"Un"
"Kufyuuhyuu~"
```

"Pway"

Latina stroked the beastman, as if she was trying to be a babysitter. It was the moment that a glimpse of Latina's new talent could be seen.

When Maaya, who was full of energy and, Latina, who looked tired but was still full of energy returned back, hand in hand, it was well past half a shade.

```
"Atiiaa~"

Even inside the house, Maaya was chasing after Latina.
```

At that pleasant sight, even Dale who had been confirming the map inside the house looked over to them with a gentle expression.

"You've sure worked yourself hard, Latina."

"Un. I've become friends with Maaya-chan"

The figure of Latina smiling as she hugged the small Maaya even tighter, was such an impact liking to that of a divine revelation that Dale crossed in his heart that he should buy her a enormous plushie as soon as he returned back to Kroix.

He wonders at himself, why he hasn't bought a plushie for her already.

He hangs his head, looking crestfallen.

"Weird?"

"Hn? It's nothing. Sometimes Dale will just be like that"

Maaya and Latina's unexpectedly serious judgement of the situation did not, perhaps luckily, reach the ears of Dale.

Maaya had even dragged Latina into her own bed.

Latina looked over to Dale and hesitated a little but, thinking of tomorrow's early departure, it looked as if she loathed having to leave Maaya.

The sleeping figures of Latina, with her harmless sleeping expression and Maaya, with her happily satisfied, fluffy sleeping expression, made Dale and Josef (The two doting parents) smile to no end.

And yet, despite them being so intimate, the time for parting has come.

"Nooooooooo!! Atiaa, noooo!!!!"

Early in the morning in the Beastman village, the crying sounds of Maaya resounded.

Having to leave with Latina, Maaya who was being held by Josef, was trying to struggle free from those arms as she bawled with all her might.

"Noooo! I hate yuu! Atiaa, bettaa!"

Getting wholeheartedly rejected by her beloved daughter, being told she hates him, and that Latina was better, the amount of damage Josef took was unfathomable.

His triangular ears which usually point up towards the sky, has become a miserable sight, drooping down.

Looking next to Dale, Latina, maybe a little influenced by Maaya's tears was starting to choke up. Sniffling her nose a little.

"....It's time to say goodbye. We'll, come by here on the way home, alright?" 
".....Un"

Latina approached Maaya with a saddened expression, whilst Maaya was struggling about with all her might, trying her best to reach out over to Latina with her own short arms.

"Atiaa! Atiaa!!"

"Maaya-chan...."

Latina furrows her brows into an N and paused, thinking of words to say.

"Stay safe ok, Maaya-chan.... Is it okay if I come by and play again...?"

"Atiaa..."

At Latina's words, Maaya stops crying and with a smile, waves at Latina to say goodbye — as if.

"Noooooo!! Atiaa, nooo!!!"

It only turned on the switch which made her cry even harder.

No child that has ever existed would listen from just one sentence.

"Ahhh, geez! It's fine, just leave already! She'll calm down afterwards!"

Josef shouted, while battling against her beloved daughter who was trying to escape from him, wiggling about.

"Wahhhhh! Atiiaa! Atiiaaa!"

"If you wait until Maaya stops crying then you won't be able to leave, even after it's turned dark. Just go, and stay safe"

Even she was smiling bitterly, looking at her daughter's wails but Wuute calmly suggests to Dale.

"Alright. Well then....Thanks. I think we'll stop by when we're going back home as well."

"I understand. Be careful"

"We've troubled you. ....Maaya-chan, bye bye..."

The reason why he put Latina, who had her head lowered, onto the horse was because he had seen though her, knowing that her steps would probably become heavier.

"Alright, alright, it's fine already, just go! Be 'areful out there!"

Hearing Josef's voice from behind him, Dale pulls along the reins and walks out.

As expected, Latina turned to look around, constantly chasing after Maaya with her eyes.

Leaving the village's exit, and even after they couldn't see any of the Byunt family members anymore, Maaya's crying voice could still be heard clearly.

(I wonder if we caused some trouble for the village....)

Dale enters into a small trail in the forest as cold sweat trickles down.

He decided not to look at Latina right now, who was sniffling slightly, sniffles.

"...It would be nice if you could play together on the way back as well"

"....Un...."

It's probably for the best that Latina feels separation is lonely as well.

He takes a step forward as he thinks that.

Fine beams of sunlight pours in from the gaps in the leaves of the forest, lighting up their path ahead.

(Author's note:

Think of half a shade as around an hour please.

I want to be fluffy too.

I truly thank you for always reading.)

(Me note: New image :D)

## Chapter 41 – Receiving the Young Girl's Letter

I say this everytime but i do need to study lol. Just been watching overwatch videos since I can't play myself;-; Went to K today. That was fun. Learnt how to sing 六兆年と一夜物語, fast songs are fun.

### Those at the Dancing Ocelot, Receiving the Young Girl's Letter

(Author's note: It's a little short this time round)

To Rita.

How are you? How is the baby? Have Kenneth or the guests been well too?

Me and Dale are very well. Even Dale is saying that we're right on schedule.

After leaving Cuvare, I went to a Beastman village. It's actually where a relative of Dale's lives. When I asked him, What's a relative? I was told that it was a family's family. Dale sure has a lot of family.

Even on the way here, there were so many things.

I also saw a lot of pink flowers blossom on the trees. I ate a sandwich with Dale as we took a break, and the flowers were so fluttery and pretty. I wanted to show you this as well. It would be nice if Kroix had them too, right.

Also, you know.....

"Thank you"

When she received the letter from the postman and recognised the sender, Rita signed the receipt.

Apart from his moss green shoulder bag strung over his shoulder, the young man who looked no different from an ordinary adventurer, took the receipt and faced her with a business smile.

"Not at all. Please continue to use our services in the future."

The moss green shoulder bag and the "Winged Envelopes" emblem is the trademark of the largest guild in delivery.

It's suitable for those with a "Center" attributed magic but, it is also the most popular occupation for those without much ability.

They, with their magic, train and use birds — of which there are many different varieties of depending on the strength of their magic, and there are those with strong magic who can even choose "Magic beasts" — to operate in the job known as delivering letters.

Given that there are branches of these stores, where all the letters are gathered, are in sizeable towns like Kroix and Cuvare, if they take it to a place like that for their letter to be delivered then, although it is restricted by countries with which they have a diplomatic relationship with, the delivery range is able to cover quite a distance.

In the cases of small villages like the Beastman's village, they wait for the delivery man who come by at regular intervals, and giving it to them then is the common practise.

Rita carefully opens the thick letter.

Inside, there were another two envelopes. Since there is a fee in of itself for the compensation for the deliveryman, in order to save on money, Latina put Rita and Chloe's letter in the same envelope, and sent it together.

Latina was smart in regards to that.

"Kenneth. Latina's letter came. Do you have time when you're restocking?" 
"Ahh. Okay"

Then on the way to the East District for restocking, Kenneth took that letter to Chloe's house.

"It appears that her trip is going smoothly. ...Well, I wonder if they planned it to be a relaxing trip"

"Where did they say they were right now?"

"From this date....it says that they're at the Beastman's village it seem?"

"Right. If I recall, Dale's relative lives there.... In that direction, people and houses are both on the lesser side so, if Latina is there then she'll be staying there...."

Lightly skimming through the contents, Kenneth nods once.

"Naturally, it'll be slower than if that guy went alone...... though it's still quite a bit earlier than his speculations before they left. It's probably because Latina is keeping up just that well"

Before leaving, Dale had went over his itinerary with Kenneth.

Even the way there that was like nothing to him were harder, as expected, with the child called Latina coming along.

Asking for help from Kenneth, with his abundance of experience, they had planned their schedule according to the standards of escort requests.

The reason they had brought so much food with them was also because of this reason.

"Latina... seems to be having fun"

Rita unexpectedly lets out a giggles, and shows a gentle smile, slowly reading through the letter. In the case of normal paperwork, compared to the amount of words that she would finish reading in an instant, she took great care, lovingly reading over it.

Seeing Rita like that, Kenneth too softened up.

"I never would have thought that it would be so quiet without Latina here"

"....Soon, you won't be able to say that anymore"

"That's true"

Kenneth says, shifting his gaze over to his wife's stomach which was starting to bulge out, and Rita laughs as well.

"Latina seems like she would be a great older sister, right?"

"Yes"

"The shops gotten pretty quiet huh"

When Rita says that, this time Kenneth let out a sigh.

"I guess even *those guys* have a limit to their money...even the sales have been going down, right?"

"I wonder if this is what it felt like before Latina came to help us"

Rita laughs bitterly, being the one who was in charge of the register as well.

Since 『The Dancing Ocelot』 has the specialty that is, being the shop where the adventurer's of Kroix have it as a base, their regulars were full of senior adventurers and, powerful people, who were famous in their own right. Newbies tend to gather at the shop every so often and were usually those who hid their faces. (TL: 新参者は店に揃うそうそうたる面子に萎縮しがちだった。) Kenneth's cooking, as well as the cheap prices were their selling points but, now in addition to that, a cute 『Poster girl』 has also become one of them.

For the newer adventurers, the sight of the cute Latina has become cushioning material against those with scarier faces within the store.

After Latina had left for her trip, the newer fellows have stopped coming, and the regular customers also don't stay long before quickly going home.

Latina, in addition to her actually working, has also contributed to becoming one of the selling points for [The Dancing Ocelot].

"Although Dale has also changed since Latina came.... This shop has also changed quite a bit"

"Ain't that true"

"I wonder if Latina might also be able to handle the cooking side of things as well"

"Before long she might even be able to handle the lunchtime sales"

Rita also smile slightly at Kenneth's words.

"That day may come earlier than we're thinking"

That girl is maturing day by day, and even now is probably seeing and feeling a variety of things, becoming closer to an adult.

Kenneth and Rita are extremely looking forward to her, no doubt, growing up to be a most wonderful woman.

.....The trip is really fun.

But you know, from now on, I'm really looking forward to being able to talk a lot with Rita and Kenneth about the trip, nano.

I was really happy being able to have Rita and Kenneth see me off, saying 'Have a nice trip'.

It's because that I have a place to say 'I'm home' and, receiving a 'Welcome home' that I think that, this trip is you know, actually fun.

From now on, I'll continue listening to what Dale says, and won't forget to be careful.

So that I can safely come home to Kroix, ok.

Rita, you should also take care of your body, ok. And the baby too, ok.

Please tell Kenneth and the guests that as well.

Latina.

Rustle. Latina's letter makes a small sound as Rita takes it out from within the neatly folded envelope. As she does so, she curses quietly.

"Even though it would've been fine if she didn't say such stupid things..."

Isn't it obvious that they'll, at the very least, say "Welcome home" properly.

"The place that you'll come home to, is right here isn't it?"

For as long as that girl continues to think so, *this* is the <code>[place]</code> that she can come <code>[home]</code> to.

"Stay safe...."

Rita mumbles quietly, and chanted a phrase of prayer towards the [Green god – the god closes to her].

(Author's note: The next chapter will also be from the people of Kroix)

# **Chapter 42 – While the Young Girl is Away**

Exams have finished... maigawd I studied hard, hopefully I don't fail a course. There's a few things I want to say that may be longer than I want so I'll probably post a little rant + holiday schedule with the next chapter of whatever. I want to rant today so I'll try to release it today:3

Quick Edit: Thanks JohnyXD for telling me the gods names are colours in Arabic, fixed hopefully all occurences and learnt some arabic: 3 thx~

### Friends in Kroix, While the Young Girl is Away

"Silvia! A letter came from Latina!"

"Oh... Is she well?"

"More or less. It's Latina anyway, she seems fine"

As soon as she entered her classroom at the [Yellow God(Asfar's)]school, that's how Chloe called out to her friend, Silvia.

Silvia Fal is a friend she made after coming to school. Her father was working in a considerable position as the military police for the mayor's mansion, and she was someone who lived in the high class residential West District however, her personality isn't very irritating, getting along nicely with Chloe and Latina who lived in the working parts of town, the East and South Districts. That temperament of hers fit right with Chloe's and she is as close to her as Latina is.

It has been over half a month since Latina had departed from Kroix.

Not to mention the length of their journey and back but, Latina seems likely to stay a little while even after they reached their destination, so they won't be able to meet until after the seasons have changed.

When they reach over to Dale's place, Latina will be able to send out a letter. She wasn't very good with studies, and her sentences weren't written out very well but Chloe was little by little composing together the events that had happened in Kroix.

(When Latina comes back, it'll be bad if only she *doesn't know* after all) Thinks Chloe.

"She says that after the sea is the Beastman's village"

"Beastmen huh.... I've never seen any in Kroix. Are there any Mixed race adventurers?"

"I didn't see any even when I went over to Latina's place to play"

"Is that so.... I want to see what they're like"

Silvia says that and, looked far off into the distance.

When Silvia was born she was endowed with, despite being a weak one, a Divine Protection from the [Green God(Ahdar)]. To people like her, they hold a quality of being drawn to travels and curiousities.

Going off into an unknown world, and to gather unknown knowledge. The Desire to visit the unknown is, partially instinctive for possessors of [Ahdar's] Divine Protection.

"Are you going to the [Shrine] after you leave school, Silvia?"

"I wonder...."

At Chloe's question, Silvia folds her arms together and holds up her chin.

"The simplest thing would be if I become a member to a [Shrine] huh.... I can have them teach me about magic as well"

"You can use magic?"

"Thanks to Latina, I know the attribute I have affinity with~"

Latina's friends who had an interest in magic had been learning chants by her side.

As expected, most of them weren't able to deal with it but, Silvia was able to pronounce it. Not just chants but she also wanted to learn the greetings of the <code>[Demon Race]</code> as this was related to Silvia's dream of one day visiting the country of Demons, Vasrio.

"Speaking of which, what about you Chloe?"

"I'll succeed my family's business. It's pretty fun lately anyway"

"Then, I guess I'll have to ask Chloe for my clothes when I grow up~...."

"Ask for something expensive ok"

It was when Chloe and Silvia were talking about those sorts of things.

"Chloe"

Pon. Rudi passed over something from underneath his armpits.

Chloe, having sensed that something was coming in that instant, panickedly reached out so that it wouldn't fall.

"This.... Baka Rudi! What the heck are you doin!"

"What. ... I gave one to you right, something that was made well"

At Chloe's complaints, Rudi tilted his head in confusion.

"Something that was made well, you say.... Oi you"

"W-what do you want.... I needed to practise so, I cut it into two parts. You have a problem?"

When Chloe repeated what he said, thinking that something was up with Rudi's answer, he looked the other way awkwardly.

"What's that? An accessory piece?"

When Silvia points at that, which Chloe was gripping, and asks her, Chloe opens up her hand which had been gripped shut.

A black fragment, shining with beauty. Along it were signs of the shape, after being cut and prepared, being diligently polished.

Chloe slightly lifted that small object, which had been carefully and preciously worked on, to take a look.

It shines, glittering as it reflects back the light.

"It's pretty right. I got it from Latina."

"From Latina?"

"Yea. When I said I'll take good care of it so leave it with me, she said that it'll be fine if it was me and gave it to me"

"And why did you bring it?"

"When I was thinking about how I should cut it a little, I thought, if she was in her own house, she might have a nail file or some kind of tool so, that's why I brought it"

She was thankful for that but, it seems he was shrewd and tricked her out of half the amount.

Chloe shrugged her shoulders, my my.

"Dishonesty is such a pain in the ass"

"Boys are all children after all"

For girls around this age, having an exchange like this allows them to act beyond their age.

What Chloe received from Latina was the [Horn] that she had broken off herself.

From the first time that Chloe saw it, she had thought that Latina's horn was truly pretty.

There was nothing but regret and sorrow, that Latina had broken off such a beautiful part of herself.

For some reason she couldn't all for it to merely leave it there and let it gather dust, and thinking so she asked Latina. Saying "Won't you give your horn to me?"

In the beginning she was thinking that she would be able to somehow do something with it but, she was troubled when she couldn't process it since that was tougher than she had thought. The one who lent her his help at that time, was Rudi.

At those words, Chloe entrusted Latina's horn to Rudi, and had it processed.

"Speaking of which, what will you do after leaving school Rudi?"

Even though Chloe had asked him that, she meant nothing of it.

It was because Rudi had come in when she had just been coincidentally talking about itwith Silvia. That was all.

"Noth....It, it's not like.... It's related to you ok"

".....!!!"

However, at the sight of Rudi acting suspicious and overreacting, Chloe and Silvia look to each other and grin.

```
"Hmmm. Are you thinking about something...."

"W-whatever, it's not like it matters right?"

"Well I guess. It doesn't really matter...."

"Speaking of which, I got a letter from Latina"

"W-w-why are, are, you bringing up Latina all of the sudden!?"

"Eh? Aren't you interested?"

"-! That's not what I...."

"If you're interested then just say so. Right~?"

"Right~"
```

While they were looking at the sight of Rudi stamping his feet in frustration, screaming in a voice that can't be heard, Marcel and Anthony exchanged a strange smile with each other.

"Since Rudi has already, ended up being forced into a corner by Chloe and Silvia, he should just give up already"

"That is, in itself is an act of understanding Marcel...."

"To a certain degree, it's important to just accepting how life is"

"Someone like you who states that with a smile might just end up becoming a big-shot...."

With a calm expression, at his friend who stated that, Anthony stiffens up his smile.

"Anthony, you're advancing to higher education right?"

Going back to Chloe's conversation, Marcel asks him and, Anthony nodded once.

"Yea"

"So you'll also be working in the mayor's mansion?"

"If I could be like my dad that would the best though. I know nothing about any of this as well. It would be fine to work at a firm as well"

Anthony's father is a low level official are the mayor's place. Since it isn't a job which is of the inheritance system, it isn't acceptable to just give his son Anthony the job. However there were a few things which could be done for him, if it's things like connections and networking.

"And you'll probably succeed the bakery I guess?"

"There's no reason to do something different after all. I like our bread as well" Marcel calmly responds.

For the majority of kids who live in Kroix, taking over their parent's business is the norm.

If it's the second son, third son then it's not like there aren't some who look for a different occupation but, especially for children from a trade, there aren't many who purposely look for a different line of work, training under someone else.

"Rudi has an older brother as well...."

"....But, up till recently he should have been planning to go into his family's business (Blacksmithing).... I wonder what happened all of a sudden"

The two of them paused for a moment but then nod to one another with a 'Un'.

"It might be related to Latina"

"It's probably related to Latina"

"It's so easy to understand after all"

"I wonder how Latina hasn't noticed, you know...."

"Only when he's in front of Latina does he put up a more than unnecessary cold attitude.... He does this so thoroughly too. In a sense, I think it's amazing"

"For us, witnessing it from the start, it's really obvious though"

At that point the two of them once again nodded.

"That's why he's an idiot"

"He's an idiot alright"

"Oi you guuuys! I can hear you, you know!"

The moment Rudi shouts, half in tears, the door to the classroom open up, and their teacher looked at Rudi with a smile.

"Rudolf-san. The classroom isn't a place to be rowdy, ok"

"\_|"

When Rudi, who came to his senses look over to his friends, they were returning back to their seats as if nothing had happened.

Basically he was just bad at grasping the way of the world.

(Author's note:

In the beginning Chloe's lines were all typed in Katakana, and I looked over them for a while.... I fixed it so there was a mix of Hiragana as well.

"Baka Rudi" is just.... Something that came up.....

This is how this work is but, thank you for always reading)

## Chapter 43 – The days he took care of her

Wow translating is taking me heaps long these days.... this sucks >< so sleepy Comment and like and show u love me ♥

### Youth, The days he took care of her

Latina caught a cold.

"Kuchun"

Even her sneezes seem somewhat cute. However, the accent of the sneeze being slightly strange is somewhat like her.

Several years has passed since he started living with this girl and while it can also be said that they were a stubborn race, she has never really been sick before.

It's most likely her fatigue showing.

Apart from that, the other possible reason was,

"....It's because you were in such high spirits even though it was raining, you know?"

".....Un. That's true..... I'm sorry....."

Yesterday they were travelling through the rain.

There was no way they were just going to wait until the rain has stopped. He didn't want to force her too much but, since it was the countryside, there weren't many homes around. They had to move until there was a place to take shelter from the rain.

The coat that Dale normally wears is capable of repelling water.

Normally since he was also quite used to travelling during stormy weather, he would put on his hood, and tie a belt around his neck, and that was his plan against the rain.

The hood that came with Latina's cape is also a magic tool, and since it was made to be able to repel water, there's no problem even if there's a light shower. However, for the sake of traveling through genuine rainy weather, he made her wear proper rain gear.

Latina seemed happy merely walking in the rain.

Looking up as they walk up the mountain path, there were nothing but grey skies and massive clouds within the gaps of the trees inside the thick forest.

Even the raindrops which hit her face, seem not to hurt and she would face upwards every now and then.

She would try to pass by all the puddles, evading them, then sometimes purposely jumping into them, breaking up the mud, and looking as if she messed up.

```
".....Latina, be careful. It's pretty slippery"
```

"Un. I'll be alright"

It was exactly when she had said that.

Latina fell down.

Her feet slipped in the puddle that she stepped on, and with a splat. That was a splendid fall.

```
"!!!"

"....Ouch...."
```

It seems she had twisted her ankle when she lost her footing. Latina looked troubled as she sat there in the mud, unable to even get back up.

```
"Uwaahhhh.... See, I told you so...."
```

Dale immediately reached out to her, and used recovery magic on her ankle.

With that, the injury was healed but he couldn't do anything about her clothes which had been smeared with mud and full of rainwater. In this situation during the middle of the rain, even letting her change is difficult.

Dale lifts Latina onto the horse and increased the pace at which they were moving.

It's the last stretch.

Dale had a bit of know-how regarding the geography of the area here. Not just the positions of the various scattered small villages but, even the positions of the cabins which the hunters use. Furthermore he was even able to grasp the location of naturally-made caves.

The closest place that they are able to take shelter from here is, probably a small cave a little ways from the highway.

It's the place that he had originally planned to be today's campsite.

There's no other way other than to rush over there at a slightly faster pace.

Be that as it may, this is the middle of the mountains.

Despite it being the start of spring, the cold air is stealing away her body heat.

Dale, who was rushing through a path with poor footing, probably couldn't be blamed for not noticing that Latina was trembling slightly. And because, even if he had noticed, there was nothing he could have done.

When they had arrived at their goal, the cave, Latina was shaking and turning pale.

"AaaaAAahh.... I'll, go look for something that can be used as firewood, ok? Take off your wet clothes, and after you've wiped yourself dry, wrap yourself with a blanket!"

"Un"

That was how Latina had answered him but, after she once again saw Dale run off into the rain, she got closer to Brauh, and started restlessly taking down their luggage. She copied Dale, doing it like how he normally does it, in order to lessen the burden of him (the horse).

And after that, when she finally took off her clothes and changed her wet underwear, she wrapped herself around in a blanket. Taking countermeasures to deal with the rain, she was relieved when she was wrapped inside a dry blanket. It wasn't able to block out the cool air coming from the ground but, she thought that she couldn't do anything but to deal with it.

"Fuaaa..."

She makes a relaxed face. Latina rolls and lies down on her side.

Dale had come back, and using [Water] attributed magic he cleared away the moisture in the outer layer of the wet branches, making it so that it somehow created the result of firewood, yet by the time the fire was lit, she was already feeling feverish.

This series of actions is the cause, as to why she had caught a cold.

"It isn't a very nice place to stay at but... we'll stay here to rest another day....
There's quite a bit to go before the next village"

Dale says as he looks at the situation with the rain.

As soon as he came back, he laid out the blanket which had been wrapped in a water-repellent cloth onto the ground, and he lays out his change of clothes and such on top of that, and then moved Latina, who had been wrapped inside a blanket onto there.

Nearby he creates an open air fire, and with Latina's dirty clothes outside, he uses magic, bombarding them with water balls as a way of roughly cleaning them.

He took Latina's clothes from the luggage and put them on her. Normally Latina would try to do everything herself but, she was doing as she was told looking absentmindedly.

After that she started to doze off, falling asleep on the floor. For Latina who rarely becomes sick, it could be said that she has extremely low resistance when she really does get sick.

That is already yesterday's story.

The next day, in other words today, the rain still hasn't stopped and Latina still had her cold. Dale didn't want to force things and decided to stay put for the time being.

```
"Dale.... I'm sorry....."
```

"It's fine if you make a mistake frolicking around if you be more careful next time. There's no need for you to apologize for catching a cold. Right?"

"Yes...."

"It'll be best if you're better soon"

Dale smiles and slides his palm across Latina's forehead.

It had felt hot yesterday but, he was relieved at it coming down to a more normal temperature. If it's like this then as long as she doesn't it push it too much, it probably won't turn into anything out of hand.

"Even though dinner... is supposed to be Latina's duty...."

"It's fine for you to be spoiled when you're sick"

For Dale, who was boiling congee in the pot, as long as the depressed Latina said so, he would blow at it slightly without holding anything back.

Even though she was in such a condition, rather than acting spoiled, the fact that she was feeling disappointed for not being able to do her job is just like her but, it's a little off putting.

In the soup was the salted meat that they had received from the Beastman's village, which was also used as seasoning in the soup. He crumbles the dried vegetables into pieces as they fall in and boil, together with the cheese and hard bread. While it was disappointing, today's meal was a Bread soup which didn't look appealing to the eyes.

"When you have a cold it's good to eat warm food, rest well, and act spoiled"

As he says, Dale takes a bite of what he had made and makes a complicated expression.

It's not that it was bad, and originally for things like camp food, this was already very good. However, it felt like it was missing something subtle.

(....Before I realised.... I had gotten used to eating good food...)

It seems he had gotten used to Latina's [excellent food for a campsite].

Even when they used the same ingredients, he felt that if it was Latina making it, it would taste a little better.

Despite that, Latina lifts a spoon of the congee to eat, and smiles.

"Yum"

"No...it's not very.... Sorry...."

"It's yummy"

Even he knows the rating of the food that he himself made. Dale smiles bitterly but, Latina shakes her head in refute.

"It's something Dale made for me.... It's super yummy"

Her face, lightened up by the red beams coming off the campfire, had a happy, affectionate smile on it.

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".....But, this isn't tasty...."
```

"Because medicine ain't meant to taste good"

After the meal, being handed the medicinal soup that Dale had boiled, Latina looked visibly dejected.

She takes a sip, and wrinkles up her brows.

"It's bitter...."

(....It would've been easier if you had just drank it all down in one go I think.... I wonder if that's also an occupational disease...?)

Looking at Latina slowly tasting it as she drinks through it, Dale tilted his head sideways in confusion in his heart.

When he asked later, it seems to have just been a bad habit. Because when she was suggested to drink it all in one go, she made a face of realisation as if "There was that method as well!?"

What he woke up the next morning, it was when he had noticed the sun's rays flowing into the entrance of the cave.

```
"The rains stopped"
```

"True. But, the footing is still bad so be careful"

"Un"

Looking up towards the pale blue sky, shining with thin rays of sunlight, Latina laughs. She hasn't fully recovered but, it seems that she's well enough to walk.

(At the next village.... I guess I should let her rest a bit more....)

Thinking like that, Dale prepares to leave.

Maybe it was because they had stayed put yesterday, Brauh was walking nimbly as if it was fun.

Latina looked a little unsatisfied when she was made to wear some extra layers of clothing and put upon Brauh's back.

It seems she was keen to walk on her own two feet.

At the sigh of Latina having returned back to normal, Dale smiles as if he was relieved and, returned back onto the road, wet with mud.

(Author's note: They'll reach their destination next chapter.

A chapter about recuperation.... The material didn't become as light the more I wrote.....)

# Chapter 44 – Arriving at his hometown

Really tired... Pokemon GO is amazing but so tiring... First weekend over Got a new computer, gonna try playing more games and see how they go~ Translations... kek, so little time due to me walking around aimlessly in the city I'm tired... not many edits... walked for 5 hours today... but found a Gyarados

## Youth, Arriving at his hometown

Dale made Braoh run at full speed through the mountain trail in the forest.

Although it seems the assailants were unaware that they had a child, and they had not thought that their small horse would be able to sprint at full speed with the two of them riding it.

He had succeeded in surprising their target.

After breaking through the entrapment, he spins his body and fires an <code>[arrow]</code> behind him as a warning.

"!! Dale!"

"It's dangerous so get down! Latina, just focus on not losing the 《Gravity Reduction》 magic!"

The reason he turned around to take a look with his eyes was due to their assailants being skilled at hiding their presences within the forest.

Even with Dale's sense of perceptiveness, he couldn't say that he had read every single presence there.

"Damn!"

He curses, and cuts down the coming arrow with the sword in his right hand. Without even looking at it as it fell down onto the ground, scattered everywhere, he speeds on forth.

The reason he is able to divert his concentration to deal with their assailants is due to Latina being in charge of the magic.

Thanks to Latina lightening the load on Braoh, as well as even mixing in a few recovery magic every now and then, Braoh is able to use all its might, dashing with all its might carrying to the two of them.

"I had thought that they'll be coming soon but....! I really didn't want to run into them!"

```
"Dale....."
```

"I know!"

At Latina's warning, he grabs hold of the reins with one hand and made Braoh jump. He didn't question it or hesitate at all.

Their assailants chasing from behind them felt troubled.

It seems there was a trap hole there. He probably wouldn't have noticed it himself if Latina wasn't there.

This wasn't because of her [Unique Ability] or anything, it was just because her observational powers are high. She gave out detailed instructions, calling out to him whenever she felt some uncomfortable feeling from her surroundings. It seems she was correct.

A man-made tunnel carved out of a rock could be seen right in front of them. Going up until their is their goal here.

```
"....Like I'm gonna fall for that!"
```

Dale fires up as he speaks to himself, making Braoh come to a sudden stop. Resulting in Latina popping up. He restrains her with his own body, stopping her from falling.

Just as he expected, right after that, a boulder rolled down, blocking the entrance of the only road into the tunnel.

"Are they stupid?! Seriously!"

Once again he made the horse run forth and chanted a spell towards the blocked entrance.

"<Oh that which belongs to the Earth, Hear my name, Change unto what I wish (Earthly Transformation)>"

It wasn't an attack magic. It merely made a transformation.

But, that was enough.

The obstacle in front of them breaks into pieces.

He protects Latina from the small rocks and pieces of boulder which were fit for the words of, breaking into pieces, and the cloud of dust which emerged by hugging her, wrapping her in the insides of his coat

With this she probably couldn't be seen at all from behind them.

Passing through the tunnel, their field of vision widened.

At that moment Dale shouted out.

"God.....damn! That old bitch!!! Didn't I tell her that I wouldn't be coming here alooonee!!"

"My my....you don't call your granny [Old Bitch]you know"

Opposite the tunnel an ageing lady greeted Dale with a troubled expression.

"I'm talking to you as well mum! Did you really want to kill your son who you haven't met in so long?!"

"Dear me.... Isn't it just blocking the entrance a little bit?"

"If the timing was off then it wouldn't be just a little bit!"

"Dear me.... Such an exageration...."

".....She's right. Something like this is normal right....."

"You too Dad! Don't shoot at me!"

"You say that but, didn't you also shoot towards me as well...."

Dale turned around towards the man's voice who he had heard from behind him, fueling his anger. However, the voice that came back was as if he didn't know what he was talking about.

"We'd removed the arrowhead from them properly right, unlike you....."

"I took them off before I shot them right?! Even without the arrowhead, it would hurt if i was hit by it! Besides you guys were shooting at me for real right!"

"Well..."

Neither that voice nor expression felt apologetic.

While they were having that exchange, it seems that the remaining figures behind them had caught up.

"You're so mean Dale, I'm covered in dust"

"Seriously, the first time you're back in forever..... Don't be like this"

"I'm the one who's mean!? I'm the one!?"

The lined up faces were all the familiar faces of his cousins and childhood friends.

"I mean it was the order of the head"

"Right"

They answer as such to Dale who was blaming them.

"Even though this is so simple, it got you quite well huh...."

Dale's father starts to say, before stopping his gaze at the young girl he was protecting in his arms. He suddenly stops moving. That look of his was similar to his son but, right now he hasn't pointed her out yet.

Latina was looking at her surrounding as her eyes became dots, and immediately looked up at Dale beside her with a surprised face.

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"....Dale.....you and your family don't like each other?"
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While Dale was looking for an answer, the fuss that his father started was relayed to the surrounding people.

"It was a little girl!!"

Latina, having that shout directed at her, jumped up high in shock.

"Fuahhh!?"

So much so she almost fell off the horse.

"Iyaaa.... I had heard from your granny that you would be bringing someone you know but. Everyone had thought that it would be like usual, someone from the same occupation you know"

Dale's mother smiled as if she was troubled and trying to evade the subject, says as she waved her hands, pata pata.

"Um....ıı'm Latina. Nice to meet you. I'll be in your care"

"My my my. Such a cute thing. I'm sorry, I scared you didn't I"

"Seriously....what would you have done if Latina got injured or something"

".....That's your job as well right, to protect her from that"

"Reflect on yourselves, I'm begging you!"

Right now, they have separated from his other acquaintances, Dale and his parents, plus Latina, the four of them are walking. Dale gets off from the horse, takes the reins into his hands as he walks, leaving Latina on the horse.

The others seem to be handling the trap hole which they had made in order to make Dale fall. This is a remote village but, it wasn't like there weren't any outside guests at all. Leaving it just like that would be, as expected, extremely

<sup>&</sup>quot;.....No.....Um, you see.... Latina...."

dangerous.

The only entrance to this village from the highway is the tunnel they had passed just now which was gouged out of the side of a rock wall.

A tunnel made from Earth Magic is fairly big, so much so that it wouldn't be hard for a single horse carriage to go through.

Only after passing through that, is Dale's hometown.

In contrast with the given population, the area of the village is fairly large. You get an impression that it doesn't come off as a village which could have existed all the way till now.

In the plaza of the village continues a maintained section of road which extended from the highway, the two sides of the road have buildings placed along every here and there.

Taking a good look, on the slopes of the surrounding area, fields were built, which had surrounded the village.

This space seems like a place which was shut off in all four directions by mountains.

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"That's my house over there"
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```
"....It's big"
```

"It is, after all, the mansion where the clan head is.... It might just be old though"

What Latina stared at, mouth wide open, was the village plaza. In the most eye-catching position, there was a certain noticeably large mansion. Although it was just as Dale said, an old building, it had a charm which made you feel as if it has had a profound history to it.

```
"Why are, the houses, different from everyone else's?"
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```
"Hmm...."
```

Her question wasn't an unreasonable one.

On the buildings in this village, there were none which had a red rooftop.

With the view that Latina had gotten used, normally 'Roofs are red'. Even with just that, it made her feel out of place.

The buildings had a dull colour which came from the constant exposure to the elements, like that of the countryside, however if you look really, really carefully, on the entrances there would definitely be a metal Relieve installed, decorated like a flower ring.

"....It's because our village, prays to the [Orange God(Korumozei)]"

"....? Dale, last time you told me that since Korumozei is the god to wish for when it comes to abundant harvests, there'll be some small shrines no matter where you go right?"

"Yea. How should I say this.... Just like how [The Country of Raband prays to Ahmar (The God of Red) as their primary god], this village [prays to Korumozei]."

"It's also because in our village, there are many who [have the divine protection of Korumozei]"

Dale's mother too smiles comfortably as if it was nothing.

"Half the people here can also use magic. But, there are many who have Earth attributed magic"

And then, with a smile she says this.

"Welcome to our village, I the household of those loved by the land I"

#### (Author's note:

It won't change into the combat scene you ask of me.

The journey will also take a break.

We've arrived at Dale's hometown. It seems to become the usual laid-back slowlife days like always.)

# Chapter 45 – Calling names in the village

Excuse: PokeGo – Ivl 22 and 88kms walked so sorta

Excuse: Was playing visual novels, and Tokimeki Memorial 4, almost done with

2nd route

Visual novel: Koi to senkyo to chocolate – translations are 马马虎虎 So PokeGo = 5 days no trans, tokimeki = 2 days no trans, vn = 2 days no trans caught up with noragami as well $^{\sim}$  1 day, therefore 10 days no trans soz...

## Youth, Calling names in the village

This village has no name.

If it had to be said then, something like [Tisroh] is being used as the village's name but, originally that didn't have such a meaning.

[Tisroh] is actually, the name of the clan which had lived here originally.

"Which is why....in our village there aren't anything such as [Family Names]. If that was really the case then our family names would end up being [Tisroh]. Doing so, everyone in the village would have the same family name so.... It wasn't very helpful"

"Hmm? But Dale, always calls himself [Dale Reki]?"

"Right. That's because in this village, in place of the family name we attach the Role\_linstead....The meaning of my [Reki\_lis the title given to [Someone who goes out and fights]. I don't know anymore about how it came about in the beginning given it's an old word passed down to the whole clan but, I was told it had that sort of meaning."

Dale leads Latina along, and starts unpacking in one room of the mansion.

It was the place which was originally his bedroom. Although his former furniture have already been packed away, he looked as if he was already at home, as if he knew where everything was.

Latina too, after putting down her luggage and knife, is currently quietly sitting down, listening to him speak.

"It seems that quite a while back, our clan had drifted here from another land. They had settled down here in the middle of these mountains, cleared the land and created a village. ....Many in our clan have the Divine Protection of [The Orange God (Korumozei)] and excellent aptitude with Earth magic every generation, to the point of calling ourselves [The Clan loved by the land]. Which is why construction, as well as clearing land is, the specialty of our clan...."

What it means to have many who excel in Earth magic is that, using magic for physical labour such as, construction and architecture — especially things like building the foundation — , it's fine even if they don't split up the work for big projects. Even in the middle of the mountains, a hard to reach place such as here, when it comes to the construction materials, or putting that all together, if there are many magicians then it's not troubling at all.

The power of the Divine Protection of the god of the land, the one you pray to for good harvest [Korumozei] is powerful as well. Although not all holders of the Divine Protection are like this, amongst the Divine Protections of [Korumozei], there is one which greatly affects the growth of crops. Not just that, it can also quicken the recovery of the land, and it can even have it so that it allows for the multiple harvests of produce.

At first glance it's inconvenient and in the middle of the mountains but, this land here is one which is easy for the Divine Protections [Filled with Divine Power] to be exerted. For their entire clan, it is an extremely easy to live, rich and abundant land.

"Which is why, a lot of our clan's practises are different from those of Raband. Even things like taking off your shoes within buildings is because of that too"

Latina makes a face as if 'Oh right', which is probably due to the fact that when she normally lives with Dale, she had gotten used to his lifestyle of 'Taking shoes off inside the bedroom'.

It seems that even the soft and fluffy thick carpet which had been laid out in this room resembled his room in Kroix and thus didn't make Latina feel out of place because she was already used to that.

Leaving the room with Dale, a wooden surface with a beautiful grain, polished as if it was a mirror continued down the corridor.

"Since we're so far deep in the mountains, when winter comes, it snows a lot. Well, that seems to be the type of land that our clan chose though. Which is why our shoes are often dirty with dirt and mud. And thus, when we are in the house, we take off our dirty shoes. That's how it was in the beginning"

Making a 'peta peta' sound as he walks, Dale explains as he leads her forth. Since Latina was wearing fluffy slippers, she didn't make much sound when she walked.

After a short while he stopped in front of his targetted room. Without even knocking, he grabs hold of the door knob and opens it.

その部屋は、豪勢ではないが、一目で『上等の部屋』だとわかる場所だった。雪深い土地の貴重な日の光をたっぷりと取り込める南向きの部屋で、古くはあっても良く手入れのされた暖炉が設置してあった。この部屋にも敷物は敷かれていたが、複雑な模様が織り込まれた『特別』な一枚だ。歴代の一族の者の狩りの成果を誇るように立派な動物の角や毛皮などが壁に飾られている。

そしてその部屋の中央には、一人の老婆が座っており、煙管で煙草を吸っている 最中であった。

It wasn't a luxurious room but it was one which at first glance made you understand that it was a <code>[Quality room]</code>. A room facing the south, receiving a fair share of the precious sunlight of the snowy lands, and inside it, albeit slightly old, a well placed fireplace had been installed. Even in this room, a carpet had been laid out but, it was a <code>[special]</code> one with complex patterns woven in it.

Decorated on the walls were brilliant horns and fur coats of animals, hung up as if boasting the results from generations of hunts from their clan.

And in the centre of that room, a single old woman sat there, in the height of smoking from <u>a steel pipe</u>.

"So? What do you have to say for yourself, you old bat"

"It's you, my stupid grandson. Complaining about such insignificant matters" (TL: As small as your arsehole, literal meaning)

Kaka. The old woman who was sitting in an imposing manner laughing, the master of the room, was quite small, A figure which lined up next to Latina would win by only a small margin.

However, with that brazen attitude, it was almost as if her small frame had been cancelled out. She was an existence which could never be seen as <code>[small]</code>.

Smoking as if she was purposely picking a fight, she breathes in the pipe she held in her hand.

"Damn you.....!"

Next to Dale who was clenching his fists in irritation, Latina looks at the old lady once and then looked up at Dale.

"....Just like, Dale"

"Huh! Latina!?"

At her sudden words, Dale was taken aback and looking at Latina, she had already walked out in front of the old lady.

"Nice to meet you. I'm Latina. I was helped by Dale, and now we're living together. I'll be in your care for a small while"

After saying so, she bows once with beautiful form as if it was natural.

It was not based on formal etiquette but, it was a greeting which conveyed her sincerity.

```
"Hou...."
```

"Dale, has been really nice to me. He's also taught me a lot. That's why Dale isn't [stupid], hmph"

Latina, puffs out her cheeks in front of that <code>[gigantic]</code> old lady and pouts a little.

"Even if you're Dale's granny, I think you shouldn't say bad things to Dale, hmph"

After that she turns around, looking behind her.

"But you know. You too, Dale. Don't say bad things to your granny"

The judgement the young girl passed down, was that both parties were to blame.

The grandmother and grandson pair exchanged a glance.

In between them, a slightly pouty Latina.

"Your pouty face looks cute too, Latina"

"Indeed"

"Latina is so cute right"

"Where did you go and find this child?"

"I picked her up"

"Every now and then, you do find something good"

Latina was able to see the truth at first glance.

[Two peas in a pod], grandmother and grandson. It's because they're [two

<sup>&</sup>quot;Granny, are you Dale's granny?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;I am. .....Young lady, you're much more earnest than my stupid grandson"

peas in a pod I that they oppose each other but.

Even their idea of [Things they find cute] are, very similar.

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"Little lady (Jou-chan). Want some candy?"

"Don't go feeding her!"

"Candy?"
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The old lady takes out an amber coloured candy from the drawer next to her and, Dale tries to stop her from accepting the old lady's callings.

He knew. That should he allow for his grandmother's [attack] once, Latina will fall to her. And then, once that happens, so will her expectations as well.

"I won't let you. Latina is my child after all"

"What are you saying, you don't even have a wife"

His grandmother laughs mockingly seeing Dale hugging Latina from behind, hair standing up as if he was a parent cat protecting his young.

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"Hm?"
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Seeing the two of them who, just a short while ago, had a different atmosphere around them, Latina tilted her head in confusion slightly.

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"Come now. Ahhhnnn"

"Ahhhnn?"

"Latina!"
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Latina who honestly opened her mouth just as she was told, was tossed a candy. It was instantaneous, ignoring any and all of Dale's interferences, with an agile and nimble movement unbefitting of her age.

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"Is it good?"
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"Yummy"

Having a side of her cheek puff up like a squirrel, Latina nods.

"Latina! Is your understanding of not taking food from strangers only up to that extent?!"

"Fueh!? Even Dale's granny is a stranger!?"

"Don't mind him. He's just acting like a little brat"

"Eh?"

"Don't just listen to whatever this old hag says!"

"Eh? Eh?"

"Even though you were so docile when you were a kid~"

"It was because of you that I'm like this now! You know?!"

"I don't really get it but, Dale and granny are close?"

"We're not on bad terms"

"That's true"

Expressing her doubts in words regarding their grandmother/grandson relationship which had surpassed her understanding, the grandmother/grandson pair replied with the exact same expression.

"Fuaaa....."

Latina thinks for a little while, 'then.... Is it alright I wonder?'

She thinks to herself as she lightly rolls the large drop of candy around in her mouth.